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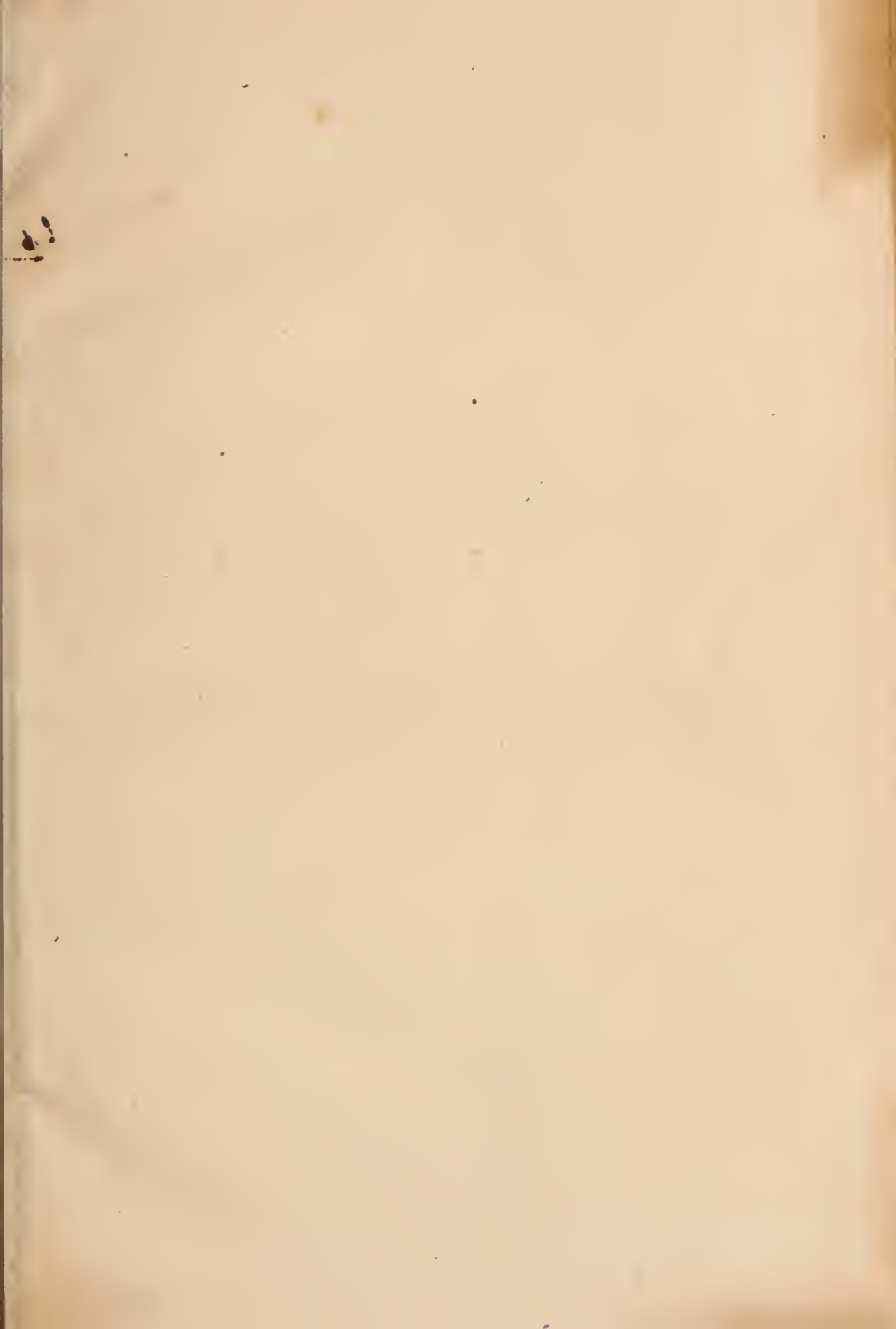
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## CHINESE REPOSITORY.

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 VOL. XVI—SEPTEMBER, 1847.—No. 9.
 

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ART. I. *Hái kwoh Tú chí*, 海國圖志, *Statistical notices of the ocean kingdom with maps, in fifty books.* Communicated for the Repository by a Correspondent.

By way of preface, and before introducing the Review which has been prepared for our pages, we must beg to detain the reader with a few words regarding both the Book and its Author. During the last fifteen years the name of 林則徐 *Lin Tseh-sü* has appeared often in public and we find it in the latest extracts from the Peking Gazettes. The career of this man has been a very remarkable one. His first introduction to our acquaintance, was in a long and able memorial to the emperor, written in consequence of inundations and famine that had afflicted the people of one of the central provinces, over which he was the *fü-yüen* or governor. That paper was pronounced by Dr. Morrison to be one of the most interesting Chinese documents he had ever read. Lin's devotion to the sovereign and to the welfare of the people was perfect, judging from his language. The people pleaded their want of means as an excuse for the non-payment of their taxes. With a view to ascertain the extent of this want the governor went, in disguise under cover of night through their fields and hamlets; and he drew a most touching picture, and represents himself as in deep distress on account of the calamities that had fallen on the land. Not many years after this, we hear of Lin's being before the emperor, receiving his sovereign's commands to stop the traffic in and the use of opium. And straightway down he came from the north, armed with plenipotentiary power, making all quail before him. Those who were then in Canton, will never forget the scenes here enacted. A strong cordon was thrown around the factories, and starvation was to be the portion of the rebellious foreigners, while the poor hong merchants and other traitorous natives, loaded with chains and shut up in prison, were to await a doom



no less dreadful. The surrender of the 20,283 chests of the drug, and its destruction followed. He had now reached a high point; and it was not long before reverses came—degradation, dismissal from office, banishment, and (had reports been true) death. Indeed his death was formally reported, in what were, at the time, received as veritable extracts from the Gazettes. Much as he loved his sovereign and the black-haired race, Lin had to reflect on himself as being the immediate agent in bringing on the late war, with all its calamities,—out of which, however, under an all-wise overruling Providence, are likely to come to this nation many and great benefits. God will make the wrath of man to praise him, and restrain the remainder thereof.

Of the Book we have but little to say, in addition to the remarks on it by our correspondent. We have never heard of the work in the bookstores of Canton; the only copy we have seen is that noticed in the sequel, and was obtained by a friend at Shánghái, and after having been a short time in the hands of our Correspondent, and examined as a curiosity by a few friends, passed into the hands of a French gentleman and has gone to Europe. The work was a handsome octavo, in twelve volumes, if we rightly remember, and was printed we suspect with metallic type, its appearance differing a good deal from the usual style of Chinese books. We hope ere long to have in possession, for our perusal another copy, and may then say more of the book, but for the present must content ourselves with the brief and rather hastily written notices which follow.

Who has not heard about the famous Commissioner Lin? A name not only known within the celestial empire, but universally spread over the wide world; so that the distant east and the far west pronounce it with great emphasis. Nor do we even believe, that the ruler of more than 360 millions of human beings has ever attracted so much renown in foreign lands, as this said gifted statesman. In a public point of view he is a wonderful man, and few mortals can boast so many good qualities, who have at the same time displayed so many vices as this one individual. There is in him a depth of thought worthy of a sage, the adoption of measures excellent and opposite, an unshrinking firmness to carry them out, a policy far above the ken of his countrymen, a patriotism that knows no bounds, and a noble disinterestedness scarcely ever found in a Chinese of rank. At different times we see this so highly talented politician, showing himself mean and despicable, cruel, ruthless, and vile, obstinate and ignorant of the first principles of foreign intercourse; goading his country into a direful war, and then, in the hour of danger, becoming as helpless as a child. How to reconcile so many contrarities in one man is not our present object, nor are we going to write a biography, but merely to give some account of his book, and of himself as a literary character.



The present work, which we may call a digest of foreign matters, political, historical, statistical, religious, &c., is a compilation, without any thing to equal it in the history of Chinese literature. Whilst Lin resided at Canton, he carefully collected everything published by foreigners in Chinese, and made from thence his extract to elucidate the *terra incognita*—that is to say every country beyond China. For this purpose he made use of the several religious tracts, the Chinese Monthly Magazine, a treatise on commerce, a description of the United States, do. of England, a general geography, the posthumous works of Ricci, &c., all more or less abridged. Not satisfied with this, he had regular translations made of all such articles in the newspapers, as contained anything regarding opium or China. To these he added the principal edicts, that were issued during the great crisis, had a version made of an essay on gunnery and gunpowder, and other miscellaneous matters, such as steam, universal power, repulse of barbarians, &c., and then presented the whole to Shángyang weiyuen, one of the inferior members of the Cabinet. This gentleman searched diligently amongst the state papers in the capital and soon discovered a number of documents that were to be inserted, himself adding to the same his own valuable information. Thus decked out this work finally appeared, in the summer of 1844, and was most extensively circulated amongst the higher officers of government, both at Peking and in the provinces. The object was to enable them to frame their creed regarding foreigners, and in a semi-official way impart to them the views which the supreme government at present holds upon the subject of barbarian intercourse, science, trade, &c.

Before writing down our humble opinion upon this extraordinary work, we shall give an abstract of its contents, to convince the readers that it is indeed a miscellany, such as only a high imperial commissioner could write.

From an examination of the preface and first book it would appear, that the great aim in writing this elaborate work, was to discuss the strategical talent and superiority of barbarians and to recommend their adoption, so as to defeat them with their own weapons; that is to say, first to make them your masters, and then to hate and exterminate them,—as a reward for the improvements that were introduced by their means. This is rather paying royalty for education, and as the plan is so magnificent, we shall not further discuss it.

What is said of the past in chapter first, refers to by-gone times, and no regret can recall the extraordinary events that have taken

place. The second chapter of the first book is filled with propositions for the defense of the country, and Lin there discovers, what his grandfather might have told him, that China wants a standing army and regular navy, an axiom, which none can contradict. The great question, however, is, how are these to be procured,—which we leave the high officers to solve, and they will not find it an easy thing, nor Lin's suggestions as practicable as they look on paper. This chapter is naturally followed by another, describing how China ought to make war. We should better have liked a treatise on the preservation of peace, and regret, that our author should have taken so very much trouble to lay down theories, the greater part of which are only practicable in Utopia, where the people are too wise to decide their quarrels by the sword. The fourth chapter has a good deal about the balance of trade, Opium, Tea, Rhubarb, and sundry other matters, upon the establishment of the Canton hong. There are many sound principles laid down in this discussion, the result of a minute examination of facts, and therefore worth the reading.

The collector turns now, in real good earnest, to geography. A whole book is filled with sad imitations of our own maps, then a clumsy representation of the whole Mongul empire, under Kubláí khan, an outline of the Chinese coast, and finally the ancient maps of the world, as they were drawn more than a thousand years ago.

The next four books are taken up with a miscellaneous and geographical account of Annam, Siam, and Burmah. Many interesting descriptions occur, and various remarks about these countries, which we never met in any other work, may be gleaned from these pages. If one wishes to know something about the connection, that existed for so many centuries between China and the south of Asia, and what is the feeling at present respecting these countries, these passages may be studied with advantage.

The next books treat of Maula, and the islands possessed by the Dutch and English,—namely, the Indian Archipelago. In giving an outline of these islands, Lin has rather presumed to talk bitterly of barbarians. The old story of the bullock's hide, for marking off the territory ceded by a native rajah to his foreign guests, is palmed off upon the Spaniards, honored with the name of Fatlangke (or Franks). In the whole of this, Lin has copied very much from European reports, and never fails to pay a tribute to their rapacity. With the situation of the islands themselves, he shows no accurate acquaintance. Had he consulted a common sailor of Fuhkien, he

might have been prevented from confounding names. We learn from his quotations, that Borneo as early as the sixth and seventh centuries of our era, had intercourse with China by means of tribute bearers. The presumptive evidence of a previous higher state of civilization of this great island, appears thus supported by historical facts.

Of Java, Lin has much to narrate admirably assisted by the tales of his countrymen who in myriads visit that beautiful island. Of other equally important isles he says very little; but Penang and Singapore are duly noticed. The writer may justly be proud about the emigrants from Fuhkien who constitute the soul and moving power of the whole trade and industry amongst the Malays and other tribes.

The twelfth book on Japan is an original collection, rich in information, little known to our book-makers. Lin mentions the severe prohibition of popery, and the treading on the cross, as well as upon an image, details the wars, that took place between his country and these islands, waged on the part of the latter by mere merchants, and also shews his dislike of the Dutch.

After this, there follow no less than six books on India, ill arranged, and full of errors, mostly taken from accounts of foreigners, in all of which the *poppy*, this destructive plant, holds the most prominent place. Arabia as well as Persia obtain here a portion of the commissioner's observations, who clearly proves that he has no correct idea of those two countries; and this is the first time, that we have heard of their belonging to western India. We were neither prepared to be told, that India was part and parcel of the same; however such it is, and we shall not gainsay the great man. He quotes sundry accounts to prove, that Christianity, or rather the doctrines of that country, (likewise called Tatsin and Fuhlin) entered into China at a very early period. As Lin does not possess great partiality for the professors of the said creed, we may take his word that such was the case. His account of Turkey in Asia, is, as might have been expected, poor enough; and we shall therefore not dwell upon it.

To this follow a retrospective view of all India, in three books, which contain a great deal new, respecting the former intercourse of China with this far famed country, and something also of the politics of the celestial empire in regard to the land of wonders. This becomes more conspicuous, when Lin descants upon the north-western frontier, and speaks about the Afghans, Cashmere, and Yarkand as well as Bokhara. But the reasoning is from sheer ignorance



defective. We believe however, that Lin is the first of his countrymen, who has troubled himself about the territory of the southwest of Samarkand.

We are now come to Lihya, the name Lin bestows upon Africa. In the whole he communicates without much order upon what a schoolboy knows better. He also descants upon the slave-trade, and the position of the native princes; a subject which appears tolerably important, under his descriptive hand. As for the kingdoms he enumerates to exist in this land of heats, and rivers, we cannot vouch, nor could we subscribe to the detail of the customs of some of their citizens. The commissioner knows best what is true, or merely a tale; but his confounding ancient Carthage with Barbary, when speaking of Archimedes and the worthies just descended into the grave, is highly amusing.

From such interesting lore we are suddenly transported to Europe, and the opening chapter of the twenty-fourth book is Portugal following which are Spain, Holland, and Neuzhnejin, which we translate for the reader's information *Belgium*. Throughout the whole is an ingenious flow of language, much truth, and still more nonsense, most artificially, and in defiance of all chronology mixed together. France comes next in for its share, then Italy—alias the Roman empire, with its nine states, and finally, Germany and the countries belonging thereto, in which is a very sad confusion, the commissioner dividing this country of dukes, princes and sovereigns without number, in to twenty-five districts, or tribes after the Mongul fashion. We have then the almost unwritable Austria (*Gowsibtikligaou*), and Hungary and Poland. The two following kingdoms Suylin and Foonowei (Sweden and Norwei?), we have not yet been able to find on any map, and believe them to be a discovery of Lin's, of which Europe ought instantly to be informed, for it is really something to hit upon a kingdom in the nineteenth century, that was not known to the great western commonwealth.

The thirty-first and thirty-second books are occupied with Denmark, Switzerland and Prussia; the latter country is sadly mingled with all its principalities and dispersed provinces. Northern Turkey follows as an appendix, no doubt, because there existed, and for ought we know still exists an alliance between the Grand Signor and the land of schools and education. That we do not quote largely from the lucubrations of the minister, may be ascribed to our fear of being contradicted in our own assertion by a boarding-school miss, which is a very feeling insult to a reviewer.

We are now fairly arrived in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and find there a very fair estimate of the said realms, their resources, trade, colonies, &c., all in keeping with the subject, and interspersed with sundry envious remarks, that shew Lin's prejudices in a bad view. He allows himself fairly to discuss the merits of these islands, and expatiate upon them like a statesman of the middle ages.

Our next step is to Russia, in Europe as well as Asia, in which the compiler shews, that he is not acquainted with the colossal magnitude and influence of the said empire.

All at once we find ourselves transferred to Miblikia (America), the *A* being left out for euphony's sake, and subsequently to *Méli-kien*, which we translate the United States. The whole account of these countries is transcribed from the published description in Chinese, and presents nothing interesting, but on the contrary an absence of any sound knowledge of the Great Republic. Then come Mexico and the colonies of North America. Then South America with its sundry mushroom republics in yonder regions of the manufactory of constitutions; several however are left out, and the account is altogether unsatisfactory. The richness of the mines attracts Lin's attention, yet he does not reflect, that his own dear native country has larger and more productive ones, than even Peru. As many of our readers, will doubt so bold an assertion, we must fully explain this subject another time by names, descriptions, and cyphers, which we have all in store, sufficient to satisfy the most sceptic money-hunter.

After having given a glance to the West Indies, the writer honors the newly discovered continent towards the south pole with a transitory notice. We scarcely believed, that seals and whales, with their kindred tribe, which occasionally visit those seas for pleasure's sake in summer, were deserving so much attention from our terse writer.

The forty-third chapter gives a very short and incorrect account of all religions, and presents a comparative table of the chronology of China and the West. Then there follows a dissertation of ancient geography, as first taught by the Budhists, a very instructive chapter, if we add the opinion on the Kwanlun mountain ridge, the highest in the world, of which the Himalaya is a mere branch.

Lin closes his descriptions with treatises on Mathematical and Physical Geography, in which the celebrated Ricci figures very much, for he was the father of geography in China.

The forty-seventh, forty-eighth, and forty-ninth chapters are on politics, polemics, the ories, and newspapers, and of the latter not a few extracts, to show what grand ideas barbarians entertain about

the celestial empire. A whole book of the work contains nothing but a description of the barbarian character in all its bearing, and the concluding fiftieth chapter is on gunnery.

Thus we have given to the reader some idea of the multifarious contents of these volumes. Though geography is by far the most interesting part, still history, tales, and erroneous representations occupy many of its pages.

As to its style this work does not rise above mediocrity, being in some measure a mere translation, but it is on the other hand not defective in perspicuity, yet at the same time devoid of all interest, except to the very diligent inquirer. When we take into consideration the multifarious occupations of the commissioner, and that amidst all, he could still find leisure and inclination to wade through such a mass of matter, perfectly foreign to his pursuits, we must admire his unshrinking diligence. His political opinions, that obtrude themselves everywhere, he might have kept to himself, for the realisation of them would be fraught with misery to his country, greater than his former movements in the anti-foreign sphere. To recommend to his nation improvements, without which it will remain a mere cipher amongst the countries of Asia, is very laudable; but to inculcate at the same time an undying hatred towards the inventors, is worse than ridiculous. We are still of the opinion of a very celebrated Japanese writer, that the Asiatics may be compared to wood, the Europeans, to iron, and to shape the former, the latter is indispensably necessary.

But with all these faults we rejoice, that such a distinguished man as Lin has taken up the subject of discussing foreign matters. His example has stirred up many of his fellow officers, and the readers will be pleased to hear, that a number of mandarins of very high rank make geography at present their study. This is the commencement of better things however insignificant the beginning.

We now take our leave of the author, a man still of high renown in China. And should he favor the world with another of his lucubrations, which we suppose will be a dissertation upon the means of subjecting Turkestan and making the Afghans with the Dost to boot tributary; we shall be only too happy to pour over his work with interest and assiduity.

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ART. II. *Papers relating to the riot at Canton in July 1846, and the proceedings taken against Mr. Compton, a British subject, for his participation in that Riot. Republished from the China Mail. (Continued from page 397.)*

21.

*Sir John Davis to Consul Macgregor.*

Victoria, Hongkong, September 11, 1846.

Sir,—I inclose you a copy of my note by this conveyance to Keying, in which you will perceive that I do not shelter or justify Mr. Compton in his real share of blame in the occurrences of the 8th July, though I object to the absurd portion of the charges against him. You will observe that I admit the propriety of that merchant being fined, as I before stated to you in my despatch of the 14th Aug. He *ought in fact to have been fined in the first instance* on his own admission of the fact, and I am persuaded that Her Majesty's government, in reviewing this serious business, will be decidedly of that opinion. The Ordinance authorizes your punishing misdemeanours with a fine not exceeding 200 dollars, which I fear is a very inadequate penalty to a person in Mr. Compton's circumstances.

I have repeated to Keying my opinion of the propriety of some relief to the relations of those who, being mixed up with the guilty rioters, unfortunately suffered in the affray; and I have moreover dwelt on the indispensable necessity of executing in good faith the agreement with the Americans of July 1844, concluded in consequence of the riot of that period. I do not wish the *Nemesis* to remain near Canton longer than you deem it necessary.—I have, &c.,

J. F. DAVIS.

22.

*Consul Macgregor to Mr. Compton. Canton, July 25, 1846.*

Sir,—In a representation addressed to me by the Imperial High Commissioner Keying, and governor Hwang, you are charged with having, "on the 4th instant, at the door of the guard at Old China Street, kicked to pieces the stall furniture of a fruiterer at that place, and with having beaten with a cane the military officer there, on his going out to admonish and stop you," on which occasion, they add, a riot had almost taken place. Further, that on the 8th instant, when a foreigner was wrangling with another fruiterer at the entrance to Old China Street, you came with a cane and dealt random blows with it on the fruiterer. That in the course of the quarrel you suddenly laid hold of a man, and took him into the Chung-ho hong, where you tied and beat him, thus causing the assembled Chinese to make a disturbance at the back of the said Hong.

It being incumbent on me to investigate these charges, which the Chinese authorities declare to have occasioned the riot on the night of the 8th instant, in which the lives of Chinese subjects were sacrificed, I have to request you will attend at this Consulate, on Monday next, the 27th instant, at 11 A. M., with whatever witnesses you can produce to depose as to the truth of the above allegations.—I have, &c.,

FRANCIS C. MACGREGOR.

23.

*Sir J. Davis to Viscount Palmerston—(Recd. Nov. 28)*

Victoria, Hongkong, September 22, 1846.

MY LORD—I have the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a curious paper from Canton, translated from one of those placards which are so often exhibited to the turbulent population of that place. Its abuse is directed against Mr. Peter Parker, an American, who acts as *Chargé d' Affaires* for the United States. It takes no account of the really valuable and benevolent services which, in his double capacity of surgeon and missionary, he has rendered to the po-



pulation, by healing their diseases and restoring many of them to sight, but holds him up to general obloquy on the ground of some alleged abuses in his official capacity.

The most remarkable feature of this paper, however, is its making (for the first time that I am aware of) respectful mention of the Governments of foreign States, and attaching importance to the continuance of peace with them. "We also presume that all the Governments of the various honourable nations will, from the general view of the case, form no partial opinion," &c. "As this" (the execution of certain threats against Mr. Parker)—"would injure the peace and friendship now existing," &c.,—I have, &c.,

J. F. DAVIS.

24. *Sir J. Davis to Viscount Palmerston.*—(Recd. Nov. 28.)

Victoria, Hongkong, September 23, 1846.

MY LORD,—With reference to my despatch of the 11th instant to Lord Aberdeen's address, I have the honour to report the state of affairs at Canton to the latest date.

I received the inclosed despatch of the 17th instant from Mr. Consul Macgregor, commenting on an abusive and inflammatory placard, of which a translation is herewith forwarded. This is one of those appeals to the bad passions of the multitude so frequent at Canton; and though I am not disposed to attach a great deal of importance to it, Mr. Macgregor was right in at once bringing it to the notice of the local authorities.

The one thing needful however is the enforcement of those regulations on the part of the Government which they engaged to carry out in July 1841, but which have been entirely neglected from that time to this. I accordingly on the 19th instant addressed the inclosed note to Keying.

I call to his recollection that the riot of 1841, in which the Americans shot a Chinese, led to an agreement concerning certain regulations of a preventive nature which were to be established and maintained by the Local Government, but which regulations have been altogether lost sight of, leaving the neighborhood of the factories in exactly the former state.

I then observe that foreigners have abstained from any attempt to exercise their undoubted right of entering the city, but that in spite of this forbearance they have been assailed in their own dwellings by vagabonds and incendiaries intent on pillage, and met with no sort of protection or assistance from the Government. After calling to Keying's mind that he was appointed by the Emperor for the express purpose of maintaining tranquillity, I conclude by informing him that Her Majesty's Government have been duly apprized of all the circumstances, and by conveying a solemn warning that in the event of any disasters resulting from such palpable neglect and violation of good faith he must be prepared to expect a demand for indemnification.—I have, &c.,

J. F. DAVIS.

25. *Consul Macgregor to Sir John Davis.*

Canton, September 17, 1846.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit for your Excellency's information copy and translation of an inflammatory placard, posted up yesterday in the neighbourhood of the factories, relative to the late disturbance. Upon being made acquainted with the fact, I immediately addressed a letter to their Excellencies the Imperial Commissioner and Governor, requesting that they would adopt such prompt and efficient measures as might prevent acts of violence on the part of the populace.

In consequence of this placard, and also for the satisfaction of the community, I have ordered the steamer *Nemesis* to return to her station opposite the factories, she having been for some time anchored at the entrance of the Macao passage.

Notwithstanding my repeated remonstrances that the regulations should be strictly enforced as to the crowded state of the avenues leading to the factories, I have to observe that their present state in that respect is quite as bad as it was previous to the late disturbance.—I have, &c.,

FRANCIS C. MACGREGOR.

26.

*Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying.*

Victoria, Hongkong, September 19, 1846.

I have received an official communication from the consul Macgregor, representing that the Regulations of July 1844 were still entirely unexecuted, and that vagabonds of all descriptions crowd the neighbourhood of the foreign factories.

Your Excellency is aware that the congregation of idle vagabonds in 1844 led to an attack on the Americans, who in consequence shot a Chinese in defending themselves. As the result of this occurrence the Regulations were resolved upon; but nothing was done to enforce them, and accordingly another attack was made on the foreign factories on the 8th July last, on which occasion the Americans combined with the English and repulsed the assailants, leading to the death of three Chinese.

Foreigners have long abstained from entering the city, to which they have acknowledged right. They have exercised this patience and forbearance with a view to improve and maintain friendly feelings. But they find that in return for this patience and forbearance they are quickly returning to the former state, which it is impossible to endure, and which previously led to disastrous occurrences.

I repeat, that they have abstained from any attempt upon the interior of the city—but now they cannot live unmolested in their own dwellings. Their indignation is therefore intensely aroused, and it is impossible to control them. They perceive that the Regulations of 1844 are not enforced, and that they are obliged to defend themselves against robbers and incendiaries.

I conceive that your Excellency was appointed by the Emperor of your honourable country for the promotion of peace and the prevention of bloody feuds. Now there is no better mode of preventing such feuds than by preserving order, and it is impossible to preserve order without repressing the congregation of vagabonds. Until this is done, we may daily expect the recurrence of disturbances, and perhaps the death of hundreds on both sides.

I have informed my government that the regulations of 1844 are still unenforced, and that the district officers of Canton do not control the populace. Indeed the Treasurer and Judge of the province publicly encouraged the people in their hatred of foreigners, as is on record. I therefore solemnly give your excellency previous warning, that should disasters occur from the defect of necessary precautions, my government will be prepared to demand indemnity. A most necessary communication.

I take this occasion to renew, &c.,

J. F. DAVIS.

27. *Sir J. Davis to Viscount Palmerston*—(Recd. Nov. 28.)

Victoria, Hongkong, September 26, 1846.

My Lord,—With reference to my last despatch on the same subject of the 23d instant, I have now the honor to report the most recent state of the question regarding the Canton riot of July 8th.

Mr. Consul Macgregor was disposed to make the levy of a fine on Mr. Compton, for his misdemeanour in assaulting a Chinese, dependent on the punishment of the mandarin who neglected to quell the riot; but it appeared to me that this bartering of one act of justice against another was objectionable, and that by fining Mr. Compton and putting ourselves in the right, we should place the Chinese still further in the wrong. I accordingly directed the consul to levy the highest fine of 200 dollars under the Consular Ordinance.

It is satisfactory to state that my formal protest to Keying on the non-enforcement of the regulations for preserving order (of which a copy was inclosed in my previous despatch) has had the desired effect, and Mr. Consul Macgregor reports the clearing of the streets and avenues about the foreign factories in a very effectual manner.

The same is implied in the inclosed reply from Keying, received yesterday, in which the punishment of the persons who killed the Chinese assailants is again proposed.

In my reply, herewith forwarded, I announce the fine of 200 dollars levied on Mr. Compton for his misdemeanour; and at the same time comment on the circumstance of no punishment whatever having been inflicted on the mandarin who neglected to quell the riot.

I then point out the absence of candour and fairness in confining the charges exclusively to the English, when it is universally notorious that all foreigners were promiscuously engaged in repelling the assailants on the factories, and that even Chinese peaceful inhabitants having been also attacked by those intent on pillage, had taken measures for their own future safety, by preventing the congregation of vagabonds.

The "Nemesis" steamer, at the request of Mr. Macgregor, remains opposite the factories, and the "Wolverine" sloop of war will be anchored at Whampoa; but the Consul reports that everything is perfectly quiet, and that preventive measures are still in progress.—I have, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

28. *Commissioner Keying and the Governor of Kwangtung to Sir Davis.*

Keying, High Imperial Commissioner, &c., Hwang, Lieutenant-Governor of Kwangtung, &c., send the following reply to a despatch of the honourable envoy (dated September 19) respecting the non-carrying into effect of the regulations [here follows an extract of the above paper.]

We, the Great Minister and the Lieutenant-Governor, after duly perusing this communication, ascertained that the military authorities and the magistrate had received directions to make known the regulations of 1844 to the public, that measures might be adopted for carrying them out. We moreover resolved to appoint an able officer to take up his abode [near the foreign factories] with a good number of soldiers, for the sake of making investigations and keeping down [the mob.] The people however are powerful by their numbers, whilst their superiors stand isolated. The authorities therefore can only then constrain the people and reduce them to obedience when they treat them rationally; but they cannot be coerced by vainly employing prohibitions and injunctions. Though the laws of the central empire differ from those of your honorable country, yet in this principle I suppose we both agree.

As there is now a case of the loss of three lives pending, which has not yet been arranged according to the principle of reason, the Chinese authorities cannot render an account to the people. If we attempt to induce them by main force to yield obedience to those regulations, this would furnish them with a sufficient plea to ask for retribution and seek for revenge. It is on this account that we, the Great Minister and Lieutenant-Governor though much wishing to issue a severe and lucid proclamation, must still delay it, and cannot do so in a hurry.

You say in your letter that you are apprehensive of another disturbance, in which on both sides hundreds of lives may be lost, and words to that effect. As the present case cannot be managed according to the Treaty, the Chinese will in future not yield to the mandarins, when they are about to quell [a riot], and we fear that a disturbance is unavoidable.

The inhabitants of Canton are of a violent and obstinate disposition, the clubs are fond of displaying their spirit and bravery, and it is to be very much feared that the matter will not end with the loss of a few hundred lives. We the Great Minister and Lieutenant-Governor are constantly under deep anxiety on account of this circumstance, and can neither sleep nor eat quietly.

As you the honorable envoy, therefore are guided by benevolence, and are apprehensive of a new riot, in which many lives may be lost, you have merely according to the provisions of the Treaty to prosecute some foreigners who wantonly fired to the destruction of life, and there will be a stop put to the causes of disturbance, the lives of hundreds will be preserved on both sides, and we may adopt measures for carrying the protective regulations into effect; and would this not be excellent? You, the honourable envoy, will take this matter under mature consideration and act [up to your conviction].

We shall not dwell upon the topics on which we have repeatedly spoken in our various correspondence, but send this answer, whilst wishing you every happiness, addressing the same.

To his Excellency Her Britannic Majesty's Plenipotentiary, Sir John Francis Davis, Bart, &c.

Taoukwang, 6th year, 8th month, 4th day. (23d September, 1846.)  
Received 25th.

29. *Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying.*

Victoria, Hongkong, September 26, 1846.

I beg to reply to your Excellency's note of the 23d instant, concerning the punishment of certain rioters.

Mr. Consul Macgregor has been informed that Compton, who threw down a fruiterer's stall, must be fined 200 dollars. This is the highest fine that can be levied by the ordinance against any person conducting himself irregularly.

Your Excellency is aware that the military officer who ought to have prevented the public riot has not been punished at all. This does not seem equal or just.

With regard to the attack on the foreign factories, it was made by robbers and vagabonds, who endeavoured to set them on fire and to pillage them. Had Chinese soldiers come in time, this attack might have been prevented; but for three hours they never appeared, and the shops of Chinese merchants were also attacked. Such being the case, could the foreigners be expected to sit at home while their factories were burned and pillaged? I have ascertained that the Deputy Magistrates of the householders of Old China street, apprehensive of such attacks being repeated, have taken measures against the congregation of vagabonds.

Not only were the English factories threatened, but those of the Americans and all other foreigners. Both Americans and English and all foreigners promiscuously armed themselves, when they saw there were no Chinese soldiers to coerce the vagabonds. The commander of the Danish ship of war sent up fifty men the same night. Can this be called only an English affair?

I before sent to your Excellency an American account of the whole business, in which it was stated that all foreigners were alike concerned. This is a notorious fact cognizant by hundreds, and it is useless and vain to deny or disguise it.

It is so far from being candid or right to attempt the confinement of the charge to the English, that I should be quite justified in declining all further correspondence on such a view of the subject. But my disposition is to follow a moderate and friendly course if possible.

Mr. Macgregor cannot take charge of American or other foreign subjects, but he endeavoured to ascertain if any particular Englishman had killed one of the Chinese. As it was quite dark, and as all the foreigners were mixed together in a crowd, it has been impossible to fix on any individual. The American who killed a Chinese in 1844 was actually ascertained, but no capital punishment could be inflicted because the man only acted in self defence. The English law is exactly the same, and with very good reason. All the foreign merchants, Americans as well as English, are desirous of subscribing for the relations of the deceased.

I regret exceedingly that this unfortunate event should have occurred. The regulations of 1844 were not only unexecuted, but the vagabonds and thieves were permitted to attack the factories without any assistance for three hours, and thus several lives were lost. I feel assured that this can never again occur if the neighbourhood of the factories is kept clear of vagabonds, and if the commencement of a riot is checked before it becomes serious.—I take, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

30. *Consul Macgregor to Sir John Davis.*

Canton, September 26, 1846.

Sir,—I have now the honor to inclose copy and translation of a proclama-



tion issued by the acting assistant district Magistrate of Nanhai for the purpose of enforcing the regulation of 1844; and I am happy to be able to inform your excellency that it has already had the desired effect of removing from the streets flanking the factories the nuisances so often complained of by the foreign community; and there is every reason to suppose they will remain in this state, as the householders in the neighbourhood have combined with the government in watching over the strict execution of the laws framed for the protection of the factories.—I have &c.

FRANCIS C. MACGREGOR.

31. *Sir J. Davis to Viscount Palmerston.*—(Recd. Dec. 29)

Victoria, Hongkong. October 12, 1846.

My lord,—With reference to my last report on the Canton discussion, I have the honor to inclose copy of a note from Keying, in which remissness of the Local Government as to the suppression of the riot is summarily evaded; and it is added that since more persons were killed on the last occasion than 1844, the two instances cannot be compared.

It is universally notorious that the *Émeute* was put down solely by the foreign residents, without whose energetic conduct the factories would infallibly have been burned and pillaged as in 1812. Your Lordship will observe that Keying still seems to expect some further settlement of the question, though he persists as before in making no sort of call on the Americans or other foreigners, who were as much concerned in the late affair as the English.

I wrote to Mr. Macgregor, as the person best acquainted with what had occurred on the spot for his opinion as to the desirability (under the foregoing circumstances) of subjecting any of the English to trial at Hongkong; although their acquittal must be matter of course. In the inclosed reply he observes that the certain acquittal of the parties would in no manner satisfy the Chinese, while the trial of the English alone would confirm the false impression that no other foreigners were concerned, and thus assist the unfair attempt to confine the odium to the English.

In my inclosed answer to Keying I have pointed out the heavy fine on Mr. Compton, as a satisfactory proof of my determination to prevent acts of aggression on the Chinese. I then repeat my remonstrances against the unfair attempt to make the English alone answerable for what occurred on the 8th of July, an acquiescence in which would tend to confirm the unjust charge.

I point out to Keying that in 1844 the American who had shot a Chinese was known and identified, but that he was not punished, on the ground of having only exercised the right of necessary self-defence exactly, as in the late case; and I add that on any occasion of really culpable homicide I should not wait for a representation from himself, but proceed at once to subject the guilty party to punishment.

Considering it at the same time right that English subjects at Canton should be duly warned of the consequences of any rash or unjustifiable use of arms on their part towards the Chinese, I addressed the inclosed despatch to the consul, calling upon him to place them on their guard upon this point.—I have &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

32. *Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis.*

Keying, High Imperial Commissioner, &c., sends the following reply to a despatch (dated 26th September) from the honorable envoy, respecting the Canton troubles [here follows an extract of that paper,] which he fully perused.

In a former letter I explained very distinctly that the mandarins were by no means dilatory in putting down [the mob], and I shall therefore in my present note not again refer to this subject.

It still remains to decide how to settle the case respecting the loss of life, for the sufferers were no vagabonds, and each had a profession and a family. I the Great Minister cannot, on account of the great destruction on the present occasion, bring forward the late occurrence with the Americans in 1814, or draw a

comparison between both cases. If you the honorable envoy will speedily, justly, and properly manage this affair, the relations of the deceased will willingly acquiesce [in the decision], the minds of the people will be quieted, and the multitude will on a future day have no pretence for revenge and new riots. I the Great Minister will then also address a perspicuous proclamation to the people to allay the indignation of the multitude, whilst means may be adopted for carrying the regulations for the protection of the foreign factories very soon into effect, which will be of the highest importance.

Whilst forwarding this reply I wish you much happiness, and address the same. To his Excellency Her Britannic Majesty's Plenipotentiary, Sir John F. Davis, Bart., &c.

Taoukwang, 26th year, 8th month, 14th day. (3d Oct. 1846.) Received 7th.

33. *Consul Macgregor to Sir John Davis.*

Canton, October 1, 1846.

Sir,—I have attentively perused and considered the contents of your excellency's despatch inclosing copy of your last note to the imperial commissioner, the original of which was duly received and forwarded to its destination.

With regard to the expediency of putting upon trial a certain number of such persons, British subjects, as may have been concerned in firing while repelling the late attack of the mob on the foreign factories, I am inclined to think that such a measure, which could only end in the acquittal of the accused, would not have the effect of allaying the feelings of hatred and revenge that may rankle in the bosom of the populace, who want life for life, and would attribute to undue partiality what is merely the effect of different laws. The object in view, of satisfying them, therefore would not be attained by a measure likely to create great dissatisfaction among the British residents at thus being singled out and subjected to trial while other foreigners were not; it might besides afford a handle to the mandarins of throwing all the blame upon us, to which from the commencement they have been and still are very much inclined. It seems clear indeed that whether a trial at Hongkong be resorted to or not, the Chinese people will never be made to believe that justice has been done to them. As on the one hand therefore the measure does not promise to do any good, while on the other it may be productive of some evil, I feel great reluctance in recommending it, unless Keying himself (who has been made acquainted beforehand with the result in the event of a trial) should notwithstanding urge the necessity, for the maintenance of public tranquillity, of going strictly through all the forms prescribed by the Treaties; and in such a case I shall use my best endeavours in finding out some of the persons who fired into the mob during the late riot.—I have &c.

F. C. MACGREGOR.

34.

*Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying.*

Victoria, Hongkong, October 9. 1846.

I have received your excellency's note in reply to my last concerning the late riots.

Since Compton was certainly guilty of an act of great irregularity and disorder in his violent conduct towards the man whose stall he overturned, I deemed it necessary that an example should be made, and he has accordingly been obliged to pay the highest fine which the ordinance prescribes for a misdemeanour, viz. \$200. I feel certain that this will have the effect of deterring other persons from similar misconduct.

With regard to the foreigners of different nations who fired in self-defence when the factories were attacked, I have from the very first informed your excellency that the subjects of my government were greatly dissatisfied that they alone should be charged with shooting the Chinese, when it was as universally notorious as the sun in the sky that all foreigners were promiscuously engaged in defence of themselves and property, and that therefore it was not admissible to confine the matter to the English alone.

Your excellency I repeat must be well aware that from the commencement a most unjust and unusual attempt has been made to fasten the odium of the late

disasters exclusively on the subjects of my government. My very first despatch protested against this, and I shall continue to protest against it as long as it is persisted in. My countrymen, not without reason, are highly incensed at such a flagrant injustice—at such an unfair and odious distinction—and I cannot expect them to submit to it. Had an impartial and fair line of conduct been adopted at first, the affair might long ago have been arranged.

I have already shewn my desire both to do justice and to prevent future disorders by the effect of example in punishing Compton for the assault of which he was really and tangibly guilty; but the unfortunate occurrence of the night of the 8th July could not have taken place except for the neglect of proper regulations, and the total absence of controul on the part of the District Magistrates. Had the local authorities put down the vagabonds and plunderers who attacked the factories and attempted to fire them, the foreigners would not have been compelled to shoot, and the Chinese would not have been killed.

It is a rule with all nations, founded on the plainest principles of a natural justice, that any person who chances to kill an aggressor in the necessary and therefore lawful defence of his life and property, cannot be punished. According to this universal rule, the American who happened to shoot a Chinese aggressor in 1844, could not be punished. But if an Englishman maliciously, and without the justification of necessary self-defence, were to kill a Chinese, I should not wait until your excellency called for it; I would instantly take measures for subjecting him to the last penalties of the law.—I beg, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

35. *Sir J. Davis to Viscount Palmerston.*—(Recd December 29.)

Victoria, Hongkong, October 26, 1846,  
My Lord,—Mr. Consul Macgregor has informed me that Mr. C. S. Compton whom I deemed it necessary to fine 200 dollars as the originator of the fatal riot of the 8th July last, intends to make some sort of appeal to the Supreme Court of this colony.

My previous despatches have placed your Lordship fully in possession of the reasons which made it indispensable to fine Mr. Compton. It was the only act of justice which I could render to the Chinese government on their reiterated requisition, and if that merchant could by any possibility relieve himself from the penalty, the chances of forbearance on the part of our people towards the Chinese and of the consequent maintenance of peaceful relations, would be small indeed, I forward the charges made by the Chinese Minister, and a portion of these were proved on investigation. Inclosure No. 2 in my despatch of the 7th of August also contained the charges against Mr. Compton.

I have the honor to inclose a copy of the Ordinance No. 5 of 1844, enacted by Sir Henry Pottinger, which I conceive fully empowers me to levy such a fine (or even double the amount) and which at the same time precludes the prospect of any action against the consul, who has merely to plead my order or sanction.

I have deemed it necessary to furnish Mr. Hulme (the Chief Justice) with a copy of the inclosed despatch from myself to Consul Macgregor, in which my reasons and motives for insisting on Mr. Compton's fine are fully stated. With this in his possession, Mr. Hulme, I trust, will see the advisability of supporting my authority over the Queen's subjects within the Chinese territory, where the government of the country has so far conceded to us its inherent rights of sovereignty.

Mr. Compton seems to found some hopes of impunity on the circumstance of the consul, in announcing to him his penalty, having misquoted the number and clause of the ordinance under which I authorized it to be levied. After having communicated Mr. Compton's very just and necessary punishment to the Chinese Minister, it would be absolutely impossible to satisfy his government as to the remission of the fine on any such ground as this, and I need hardly add that the consequences would be excessively mischievous; and I therefore hope your Lordship will approve of my precaution in officially supplying the Chief Justice with



all the circumstances under which I deemed it necessary to authorize the fine.— I have, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

36.

*Charges made by the Chinese Minister against  
Mr. Compton.—A Declaration.*

Ke, Imperial Commissioner, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., and Hwang, Governor of Kwangtung, &c., hereby give a declaration in reply.

Sometime ago we received your statement stating [here follows a condensed abstract of her majesty's consul's letter to the imperial commissioner, dated 8th August, 1846.]

When this reached us we gave orders that an examination should be instituted into the matter, and we have now received the reply of the District Magistrate of Nanhai, stating :

“ In obedience to your instructions I immediately despatched runners to summon before me the witnesses, for the purpose of interrogating them. Afterwards I received a report from the runners in question, stating that the person who was selling plums at the entrance of Old China street on the 8th of July was an itinerant dealer, whose name and dwelling-place were unknown, and that the person who had been laid hold of, taken away, tied and beaten by Compton, was a man from a Sha-wei boat, whose name was also unknown ; that they had therefore no data by which to search out and summon these people, but that they had brought all the others. I thereupon examined them, and the fruiterer Lin-a-he deposed as follows :—

“ On the 4th July current, at about 2 o'clock (wei pae she how) I was carrying lychees about for sale, and had arrived at the doorway of the guard-house at the back of the thirteen factories, when an Englishman came and kicked over on to the ground the basket containing the lychees. I was expressing to him my disinclination to submit to this proceeding, when the officer and soldiers in the guard-house came out to explain the affair away, and admonish us ; and I, yielding to their admonitions, immediately gathered together the lychees again and put them into the basket and carried them away. This is the truth.’

“ The military officer, Le-fung-tseang, deposed as follows :—

“ On the 4th July Compton having kicked over the fruit-basket of Lin-a-he before the guard-house, and Lin-a-he being disinclined to submit to this proceeding, I went out with the soldiers and exhorted the parties to disperse. There was no throwing of stones by the by-standers. Compton followed into the guard-house, said something, we know not what, to myself and the others, and then beat me and the soldiers with his cane ; which the crowd in the street perceiving, were thrown into a state of excitement. Compton carried no stone in his hand at the time. On the 8th of the month an Englishman, whose name is unknown to me, on issuing from the hong, ran against a vender of plums, whom he thereupon beat with his cane. The vender of plums and the crowd in the street all shewing their disinclination to submit to this, a mutual clamouring ensued ; which Compton perceiving from an upper story, immediately descended, carrying a cane, and issuing from the hong, assisted the other in beating. He also laid hold of a man, and took him into the Chungho shop, where he tied and beat him, thereby causing the crowd to make a riot. This is the truth.’

“ The soldiers Le-tih-shing and Pei-tsung-taow on being examined, made depositions agreeing with this.

“ The proprietor of the Chungho hong, the nominal officer, Pwon-she-young, deposed as follows :—

“ On the 8th July at about 4 o'clock (shin pae she how), the coolies and work people made a report to me to the effect that the Englishman Compton had, for what reason they did not know, run down from a back upstairs room, and with Gilman and some other individuals laid hold of one of the people and brought him into the hong ; and that they had tied him with the cords of a fire-engine, and had beaten him. Just then the to-paow (overseer of the quarter) Leang Kwan arrived running, upon which we together immediately addressed our admonitions to the Englishmen, enjoining them to deliver the person who was bound to the people at

the guard-house, or to the *te-paow*, to be handed over to the mandarins. This Compton refused to do, and enjoining two Englishmen to keep guard, went himself into Pihchin's (Buxton's?) house. I immediately set the man who was bound at liberty, and he ran off; but this being observed by the Englishmen who were holding guard over him, they made pursuit, and again laid hold of and detained him. The struggling and wrangling of the parties being heard by the crowd in the streets, the public indignation was suddenly aroused, which led to the riot. This is the truth.'

"The *te-paow* Leang Kwan, the shopmaster Chin-a-tsac, of Hog-lane, and the shopmaster Le-a-kwang, of the Leenhing-street, on being examined, made depositions to the same effect.

"As in duty bound I now make this report in reply, based on the facts," &c.

On examination we find, with reference to the said English merchant Compton having disgraced the military officer by beating him, that on referring to the archives of the District Magistrate of Nanhai, the circumstance was found to have been put on record according to a report made on the 4th of the month, when it was quite impossible that the said military officer, &c., could foresee the occurrences of the 8th of the month, and falsify and gloss over the facts beforehand. Further, the statements in the depositions of the soldiers made on being interrogated are as if they had been made by one and the same person, and hence of course strictly true. No matter whether the person who was tied had or had not a quarrel with Compton, the latter in every case ought not to have laid hold of him, taken him away, and tied and beaten him. If it be said that the desire was to hand him over to the authorities, then why did the said merchant not listen to Pwan-she-yung and the *te-paow*, when they exhorted and enjoined him to deliver the man to the people of the guard-house?

As to Compton's having descended from an upper story with a cane and assisted in beating, when he perceived a foreigner quarrelling with a vender of plums—as to this circumstance the statements in the deposition of Pwan-she-yung, &c., made on being interrogated, are in perfect unison with those made at first by the neighbours, &c.; and it appears therefore needless to take any further measures with reference to them. Everything else has been detailed in our former declaration.

We have now to give you a declaration in reply, in order to communicate to you the report received that there was no data by which to search out and summon the vender of plums and the person who had been tied; and also the depositions made at the present examination; that you may examine into the affair and take such steps as may be necessary. A necessary declaration.

A declaration for the British Consul, Macgregor. 23d August, 1846.

37.

*Sir John Davis to Consul Macgregor.*

Victoria, Hongkong, October 22, 1846.

Sir.—In reply to a letter forwarded by you from Mr. C. S. Compton, you will have the goodness to inform that gentleman (as you have been already directed) that the ordinance under which I authorized you to fine him is not Ordinance No. 2, but Ordinance No. 5 of 1844, to carry into effect upon Chinese territory the treaties between Great Britain and China, and for the preservation of peace and amity between the two nations. By Article XIII in the Schedule annexed to that ordinance, Mr. Compton was bound to proceed to the Consulate and state any cause of complaint against a Chinese. Instead of doing this, his violence excited the frightful tumult and bloodshed in which three Chinese were killed, and by which the peaceful relations between the two countries are still endangered.

Under these extraordinary circumstances I have considered myself bound to exert those high powers with which it has been deemed necessary to invest me for the government of Her Majesty's subjects within the Chinese dominions, with a view to the most important object of securing international tranquillity; and the British government and Legislature will be prepared to support me on an occasion of such a peculiar kind. As before directed, you will plead my order as your sufficient warrant for the fine of 200 dollars, under Ordinance No. 5 of 1844, "for

British subjects within the dominions of the Emperor of China," as passed by my predecessor, Sir H. Pottinger.

While the safety of not only the British but the whole foreign community is still endangered as the consequence of his conduct, Mr. Compton cannot reasonably expect that a fine, deliberately levied after the fullest inquiry, on a complaint repeatedly urged against him by the Chinese government, for a violation of Treaties on their own territory, should be remitted. This would be only to aggravate the serious evils for which Mr. Compton must be considered as deeply responsible, and it would at the same time prove me utterly unfit for the discharge of those international functions with which it has pleased Her Majesty to honour me, in the very unusual circumstances under which we exercise a foreign jurisdiction within an independent sovereignty. You will observe in my circular to Her Majesty's Consuls of November 22, 1844 (since approved by Her Majesty's government,) that the "Emperor of China having, like the Sultans of Turkey, waved in favour of Christian Powers rights inherent in territorial sovereignty, such Christian Powers, in taking advantage of this concession, are bound to provide, as far as possible, against any injurious effects resulting from it to the territorial Sovereign."

If the recovery of 46,000 dollars private compensation from the Chinese government at another port proves that I have protected the rights of British subjects, it is only just that I should be equally firm in enforcing their obligations. On no other terms can we maintain a beneficial intercourse with China, and on no other terms can I undertake to administer my trust,—I have, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

38.

*Sir J Davis to Viscount Palmerston.*—(Recd. Dec. 29.)

Victoria, Hongkong, October 28, 1846.

My Lord,—I received from Keying on the 17th instant the inclosed reply to my announcement that Mr. Compton had been fined as the originator of the fatal riot of the 8th July.

Your Lordship will observe that he still persists in confining the charge of firing to the English; but as he suggests at the same time that I should ascertain by a formal inquiry who those really were that fired, and to what nation they belonged, I took advantage of Mr. Johnston going up to Canton to authorize him, conjointly with Mr. Consul Macgregor, formally to investigate the circumstances already publicly and universally known, in order that I might transmit the report to the Chinese Minister. My note to Keying on the subject is annexed.

Mr. Johnston returned last night with the inclosed report. From this your Lordship will perceive that a number of Americans, Germans, and other foreigners were quite as actively engaged against the Chinese assailants as the English, and that the late American Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Parker (now relieved by the arrival of Mr. Everett) led one of the parties, though without himself being armed.

When the departure of the mail has left me time, I intend to forward to Keying a translation of this report for his satisfaction.

With reference to a despatch from myself to the Consul, conveying warnings as to the use of fire-arms (already transmitted to your Lordship on the 12th of October), I beg to inclose the correspondence of the Committee with Mr. Macgregor, as printed in the "*China Mail*." It has given me much satisfaction to learn from the Consul, in a letter dated the 25th instant (as herewith transmitted), that preparations are making by Keying for converting the late Consou House into barracks for a strong force of Chinese police or military; and the Consul adds in a private letter that an officer of respectable rank will be stationed with the men. When efficient means of coercing the populace have been really established, I shall consider it my duty by every means to check armed associations of British subjects, I have, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

39.

*Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis.*

Keying, High Imperial Commissioner, &c., sends a reply to a despatch received from the honourable Envoy respecting the Canton troubles, [here follow the contents of the despatch dated 9th October], which I fully perused.



From this it would appear that Compton was punished by you the honourable Envoy for his extremely disorderly behaviour, which gave rise to the subsequent calamity; and hence you adopted this course. It was therefore not without a cause that a noisy crowd [of Chinese] repaired to the factories, as there was somebody who originated this affray; and it cannot be said that the foreigners who immediately fired and caused loss of life were innocent, and the death of three persons cannot be looked upon as not requiring a judicial prosecution. Now as an Englishman was the author of this case, it can only be brought home to Englishmen. It will moreover not be difficult to you the honourable Envoy to ascertain what countrymen those were who fired, and to establish the truth, for you are invested with Plenipotentiary power, and have always been held in respect by all the other nations. After having clearly examined into the facts, you will justly manage the whole.

At present the relations of the deceased make continual application respecting this business. So long however as this affair is not settled, the people will not remain quiet, and though we might endeavour to restrain them, we shall not be able to do so; another outbreak will take place, and it will be still more difficult to arrange and manage that.

As you the honourable Envoy possess knowledge and the clearest perception, you will endeavour, as I hope, very soon to settle this matter in an impartial manner, for it is of the utmost importance that the foreign and native merchants and people shall always live peaceably together.

Whilst forwarding this reply I wish you every happiness, addressing the same

To his Excellency Her Britannic Majesty's Plenipotentiary, Sir John Francis Davis, Bart.

Taoukwang, 25th year, 8th month, 25th day. (14 October, 1846.) Received 17th.

40.

*Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying.*

Victoria, Hongkong, October 19, 1846.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 14th instant relating to the late riots.

The punishment of Compton for his disorderly conduct has evinced my sincere desire to preserve peace and friendship between the English and Chinese. With regard to the subsequent attack on the foreign factories, in the defence of which all the foreigners were engaged, it became difficult (in a case where so many were concerned) to particularize individuals. As your Excellency however suggests that I should endeavour to ascertain to what nation those belonged who fired upon the assailants, I have directed an investigation to be made by officers deputed for the purpose to Canton, and will inform your Excellency of the result.—I have, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

41.

*Report of Investigation as to firing on Chinese at Canton.*

Canton, October 23, 1846.

The Honourable Mr. Johnston having been instructed to proceed to Canton and to co-operate with F. C. Macgregor, Esq. Her Majesty's Consul at that port, in an investigation into the principal circumstances of the attack on the foreign factories, in which several Chinese were killed on the 8th July last, accordingly proceeded thither; and a consultation having been held on the 23d October at Her Majesty's Consulate as to the best way of conducting the investigation, came to the decision, as no Chinese evidence appeared against foreigners, to commence the investigation by examining such of the Consular Officers as were present at the disturbances alluded to, and then to proceed further to examine those of Her Majesty's subjects (and others if possible) who may appear to have been present on the occasion in question, as well as to ascertain those who most prominently bore fire-arms on that occasion, and the nations to which they belonged, in accordance with the instructions of his Excellency Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, under date 20th Oct., 1846.

[Here follow the depositions of Messrs. Backhouse, Giles, Meadows, Birley,

Johnston, Bourne, Marjoribanks, H. Smith, and Cuvillier, giving details of the riot already in possession of our readers, and proving the participation of Americans, Parsees, Germans, and others in the steps adopted in self-defence by the foreign community.]

42.

*Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying.*

Victoria, Hongkong, October 31, 1846.

I before informed your excellency that I would depute officers to Canton to make inquiries respecting persons who fired in defending the factories on the 8th July.

These persons having finished the investigation have reported as follows :—

The principal attack was made by the Chinese mob upon the residence of Mr. Church, a merchant. They broke the windows, and one man was seen endeavouring to remove the iron bars from a lower window, in order that he might enter and pillage. Fire was also thrown in order to burn the building. All the foreigners seeing this, armed themselves, and when the Chinese pressed on in greater numbers, wounding several persons, both the English and Americans, and the foreigners of other nations, were obliged to fire. None of these foreigners deny or conceal their having done so because they only defended their dwellings from being pillaged and burned. In no country is it necessary to submit to this.

The American narrative which I before sent to your excellency agrees with the above.

It appears that the Chinese soldiers arrived at 10 o'clock, after which no more firing took place. Had these soldiers been present immediately after the commencement, no Chinese would have been killed, because it would not have been necessary for the foreigners to use fire-arms. The Consul informs me that the neighbourhood of the factories has now been cleared of stalls and hucksters, and it may therefore be hoped that no more disturbances will take place. If your excellency restrains the Chinese, I shall be able to restrain the English; but if the populace are encouraged by the Treasurer and the Judge of Canton (as in the last year) to hate and oppose foreigners, then our people will constantly fight together, many persons will be killed, and your excellency and I can only write notes to each other. It appears to me that officers like the Treasurer and the Judge should be reported to the emperor, as the encouragers of bloody feuds and mutual troubles.

I have hitherto abstained from moving many ships of war into the river; but if it should be very plain that the Chinese government cannot restrain the people, then it will be necessary to protect the English, and I cannot be blamed if I am obliged to act in this manner against my inclination. I sincerely hope that mutual tranquillity will prevail for the future.—I conclude, &c.,

J. F. DAVIS.

43.

*Commissioner Keying to Sir John Davis.*

Keying, High Imperial Commissioner, &c., and Hwang, Lieutenant-Governor of Kwangtung, &c., send the following reply to the honorable envoy respecting a letter they received about an officer being deputed to Canton for investigating the circumstances of the outbreak on the 8th July.

[Here follows a full extract of that paper.]

We remembered, on perusing the above, that you the honorable envoy in a previous despatch stated that you were sending an officer to the provincial city to ascertain who were the persons that fired. It does not however appear in your present communication that the foreigners who fired so as to occasion loss of life were found out.

Every stranger as well as native is aware that this occurrence took place because Compton gave rise to the disturbance, and that therefore the mob not without a cause, attempted to burn and pillage. The people fell, one at the entrance of Tik-hing-street, another at the bottom of Tung-wan-street, and a

third at the bottom of Tsing-yuen street, and not at Chung-wo hong, where the affray originated. It is therefore clear that the foreigners committed homicide intentionally, and not in defending the space in front [of the factories.] Those killed were all of them people that earned an honest livelihood, and by no means ruffians; still you call them in your letters a vagabond mob, which is indeed doing them injustice. Had the Chinese military been previously informed that the people were on the eve of an outbreak and disturbance, they would have taken beforehand precautionary measures. But it was Compton that collared an ordinary man, bound and beat him, and thus rousing the indignation of the multitude constituted himself alone by this rashness the author of this disturbance. Yet in your despatch you still blame also the tardiness of the soldiers in quelling the uproar, and throw upon them too much responsibility.

Not only do you the honorable envoy vigorously protect the British merchants in China, who are here for the sake of trade, but we the Great Minister and Lieutenant-Governor also exert ourselves to procure them quietness. This ought however to be done in a complete manner and justly so as to render the Chinese submissive, and then both parties will live in peace and be kept from all harm. It is vain to attempt putting down the Canton people by main force without a show of reason, for their numbers are too great, and defy the application of physical force.

To sum up the whole, we ought to act with equity, and maturely think about the steps to be taken. As the foreigners have destroyed the lives of several Chinese, and not behaved in conformity to the Treaty, the Chinese are filled with hatred and deep ill-will. How have we to act if a foreigner should lose his life on a future occasion?

If you the honorable envoy would decide this affair, and manage it speedily according to the Treaty, it would be very fortunate. It is however of the highest importance not to give heed to mere rumours.

You the honorable envoy will have heard that we the Great Minister and Lieutenant-Governor have established near the foreign factories a perpetual military post for the protection [of the inmates.] But we must at the same time settle this case of loss of life with equity, and the hatred and ill-will of the Chinese will be allayed, and no unforeseen disturbances will ever take place.

Whilst sending the above we wish you much happiness, and address the same.

To his Excellency Her Britannic Majesty's Plenipotentiary, Sir John F. Davis, Bart, &c.

Taukwang, 26th year, 9th month, 19th day. (4th Nov., 1846.) Received 9th.

Victoria, Hongkong, November 10, 1846.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of a note from your Excellency jointly with the Lieutenant-Governor, dated the 7th instant. However culpable the repeated acts of violence on the 4th and 8th of July, it appears on record that Consul Macgregor at least did his duty by giving formal warning of the probable consequences of similar conduct on the very day preceding the 4th. I have reported to my government the fine I ordered on the exciter of the riot, and it will be sufficiently clear that I did what the case required.

I have often told your excellency that the mixed company of the foreigners of all nations, who combined to defend their persons and property, were compelled to fire for the safety of their lives. But under any circumstances you must be aware that I have no authority except over British subjects; and I repeat my previous declarations, that I cannot acquiesce in the continued attempts which have been made to charge the homicides exclusively on them. It would moreover be useless to distinguish any particular individuals among a crowd who, acting solely in defence of their lives, can scarcely be considered as culpable in any degree.



It is notorious that the lamentable deaths of three subjects of China might have been prevented had the soldiers arrived immediately after the tumult began, instead of delaying for about three hours afterwards. If they were not answerable for the commencement of the disturbance, they certainly were greatly so for its continuance and consequences.

It is satisfactory to learn from your Excellency and from Consul Macgregor, that a guard is being established in the neighbourhood of the foreign factories. I will take the most efficient measures in my power to restrain those under my authority, and I am resolved to afford no protection to such as do not deserve it. This care however must be strictly mutual—Chinese must be restrained as well as English; and I once more repeat my previous solemn warnings, that all damage from the populace, sustained by inoffensive British subjects, must be made good at Canton, as it was at Foo-chow.

I take occasion to renew to your excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

J. F. DAVIS.

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45. *Sir John Davis to Viscount Palmerston.*—(Recd. Dec. 29.)

Victoria, Hongkong, October 29, 1846.

My Lord,—With reference to the subject of my despatch of the 28th instant, I have received the inclosed letter from Mr. Compton to be forwarded to your Lordship. The fine which he says was levied by the Consul was in fact levied by myself, after a view of his own and others' depositions. It was by my order, Ordinance No. 5, inclosed to your Lordship.

It will be difficult for Mr. Compton to prove that he did not excite the tumult, as, except for his violent acts, the tumult would not have taken place. Keying has adopted effectual means of protection only since the fine was announced.—I have, &c.,

J. F. DAVIS.

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46. *Sir J. Davis to Viscount Palmerston.*—(Recd. Jan. 23.)

Victoria, Hongkong, November 12, 1846.

My Lord,—Referring your Lordship to my former despatch of 28th October, I have the honour to forward additional correspondence with the Chinese government on the late disturbances.

One inclosure contains the substance of the report made by Messrs. Macgregor and Johnston, after their investigation of the circumstances attending the death of the three Chinese. It especially points out the concurrence of all other foreigners with the English in opposing the attacks of the Chinese mob, and refutes the exceedingly unfair and improper attempt to confine the charge and the odium exclusively to our people.

The reply to the foregoing and my rejoinder I have deemed it expedient to publish for the information of British subjects in the Chinese dominions. The difficulties to which I am personally reduced by these occurrences are a small portion of the evil; but I feel that I cannot too strongly demonstrate to our merchants the necessity for abstaining from that contemptuous and aggressive conduct towards the natives of China which has already driven the trade from Foo-chow-foo, and threatens to have the same effect at Canton. It is in this point of view that Mr. Compton's repeated acts of violence, in spite of formal warnings, assume their proper hue. I need only refer your Lordship to Mr. Consul Alcock's notice to British subjects at Foo chow, herewith inclosed, to shew the extreme importance of restraining that violent demeanour towards the natives so unfortunately characteristic of our countrymen.—I have, &c.,

J. F. DAVIS.

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47. *Sir John Davis to Viscount Palmerston.* (Received January 23, 1847.)

Victoria, Hongkong, November 12, 1846.

My Lord,—The late ferment among the English merchants at Canton, in consequence of the fine I ordered on Mr. Compton, may perhaps not greatly



surprise your Lordship, who were cognizant of the proceedings of Mr. Innes under Captain Elliot, and who perhaps heard the evidence of Mr. Inglis, another merchant, who declared, "We never paid any attention to any law in China that I am aware of."

The importance of possessing the means of a summary restraint on the conduct of our people, in that very peculiar position wherein we exercise a foreign jurisdiction in an independent territory, probably dictated that clause of 6 and 7 Victoria, cap. 80, by which an order of Her Majesty in Council has the force of law in China.

I am not the first who has been compelled to remark that it is more difficult to deal with our own countrymen at Canton, than with the Chinese government; and I offer the best proof of this in the fact that it has cost me infinitely more trouble to make Mr. Compton pay a fine of 200 dollars, than to obtain a compensation to our merchants of 46,000 dollars for losses which accrued partly from their own misconduct. The inclosed copy of the deposition signed by Mr. Compton himself, admits the whole of the repeated acts of violence for which I fined him. He even adds this confession. "That these circumstances led to the riot is very probable." It appears to me that this deposition fully authorized my ordering the fine on complaint of the Chinese government. Consul Macgregor might have fined Mr. Compton, and ought to have done so, on the first commission of the offence, but he did nothing until my return from Chusan, nearly a month after the occurrences, when I was obliged to take the question up, on the requisition of Keying. What deprives Mr. Compton of all excuse for his repeated acts of violence, is the fact that the inclosed was expressly addressed to him and others on the 3d July, the very day before his first outrage on the Chinese.

The next inclosure is a letter from Mr. Compton to myself, by way of protest against the fine, which the Consul declined to forward on account of its disrespectful tenor, but which, on its being sent to myself, I did not return. His endeavour to represent his proceedings as partaking of the character of mere common assaults can hardly be maintained. Repeated acts of violence, after previous warning, in a place like Canton, where the natives and foreigners are in a state of hostility, and the government can scarcely restrain its subjects, were naturally followed by results very different from those of common assaults, and seem to me to render the exercise of my powers under the Consular Ordinance No. 5, not only justifiable but necessary. The acts were committed on a foreign territory, and satisfaction was demanded by the government which had yielded to us its inherent rights on its own soil.

It was in my despatch of 26th September, that I reported to your Lordship the fine of 200 dollars, which I had ordered on Mr. Compton. This order had been carried out two days before, on the 24th, by a letter from the Consul, in which he named the wrong Ordinance, a fact which I did not learn until the 16th October. He has admitted this to have been "his own error," and I can hardly be responsible for the mistakes of the Consul. Should Mr. Compton obtain impunity on this ground, what will be the feeling of the Chinese government, or the future demeanour of our own people towards the Chinese?

Mr. Compton, it appears, applied for the judgment of the Court, and an application was made to my Secretary for the recorded evidence from Canton. I could perhaps have denied the jurisdiction of the Court under Ordinance No. 5, but this might have been construed into a desire to conceal the evidence, or it might have brought me into unseemly collision with the Judge, a contingency much to be deprecated on every ground. I accordingly directed the inclosed reply to be returned, stating that the Consul had been authorized to supply the evidence, and drawing Mr. Hulme's attention to my letter and inclosure of the 27th October, as noticed to your Lordship in my despatch of 26th October.

The evidence was transmitted by Mr. Consul Macgregor, with a letter, of which I beg to inclose the copy. This embodies at once the charges and complaints of the Chinese government, and the results of the evidence in reply to them. By his own deposition, Mr. Compton kicked over the stall of the Chi-

nese vender, because it stood in his way, on the 4th July, an outrage which nearly produced a tumult the same day. By his own deposition he at least handled the person of the Chinese officer whom he brought to the spot. He commenced another dispute on the 8th July following, by pushing a Chinese aside; and when the Chinese, resented this, he beat and dragged him into an adjoining building, where he tied him up. This he confesses "probably led" to the *emute* of that day, in which three Chinese were shot.—I have, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

48.

*Consul Macgregor to Sir John Davis.*

Canton, November 18, 1846.

Sir,—With reference to my despatch No. 107, I have the honour of inclosing to your excellency, in original and translation, the answer I received from the Imperial Commissioner under date of the 14th instant, to my letter announcing the departure of the steamer *Nemesis*, judging it of importance that you should be informed of its contents as conveying an official communication of the arrangement which have been made by the Chinese authorities, and are to be carried out for the preservation of public tranquillity in this city.

I am happy to add that nothing has happened since my last communication indicative of a disposition of the part of the people to disturb that tranquillity. A military post is still stationed in Old China-street south, and measures are adopted to keep order and prevent a large concourse of people at that place.—I have, &c.

F. C. MACGREGOR.

49. *Commissioner Ke and the governor of Kwangtung to Consul Macgregor.*

Ke, Imperial Commissioner, governor-general of the Two Kwang, &c., and Hwang, governor of Kwangtung, &c., hereby give a declaration in reply.

We have received your statement to the following effect: [here follows an abstract of the letter of Her Majesty's Consul to their excellencies, dated 13th November, 1846, expressing a hope that they would increase their means of defence for the protection of the foreign factories in the event of a popular riot, &c.]

After examination, we find that in the month of July, when the disturbance attended with loss of life took place at the thirteen factories, we immediately despatched officers and soldiers to guard against and suppress tumults, and that fortunately they have for several months preserved us from cause of anxiety.

Considering however that to despatch soldiers upon the occurrence of any event is by no means a permanent plan, we have therefore, after framing the necessary regulations, appointed one military officer, a major, and one civilian, an officer having independent jurisdiction, to take charge of soldiers and police, and reside constantly in the neighborhood of the thirteen factories, as a guard and protection, and that they may, in the event of altercations, quarrels, and disturbances between the Chinese and foreigners, be thus able, in the immediate vicinity, to ascertain the facts and arrange matters according to reason, separately dispelling the causes of discord in order to prevent their ending in exciting great evils; and orders have already been despatched for the necessary measures to be taken in due order.

Apart from these, no other preparations for protection have been made. If however a state of mutual tranquillity and absence of trouble is to have existence, it is indispensable that equity obtain in the intercourse and relation between the two countries. It is therefore necessary that you restrain the British merchants, so that they may not, like Compton, employ violence and take a delight in overcoming others, thereby exciting fights but that they may regulate their conduct by reason and the common feelings of mankind. Both parties will then enjoy pleasure and profit in common, without depending on the defence and protection of the military and police alone.—A special declaration.

For the British Consul Macgregor.

14th November 1846.

50. *Sir J. Davis to Viscount Palmerston.* (Recd. Jan. 23, 1847.)

Victoria, Hongkong, November 25, 1846.

My previous numerous despatches during nearly four months will probably have convinced your Lordship that Mr. Compton, the originator of the fatal riot, had not been too heavily fined. The fine was imposed on a consideration of Mr. Compton's proceedings, not only on the 4th July in wantonly kicking over a Chinese stall, but also on the 8th following, in assaulting and falsely imprisoning a subject of China, which led to the mobbing and riot. Mr. Compton had received written warning from the consul (being the day preceding his first act), of the consequences of "acts of violence originating among ourselves." His repeated violence was in spite of this recorded warning.

The amount of the fine as a penalty must be viewed relatively to the offender's station and means; and in this light, and under the aggravated circumstances of the case, it was not excessive.

The only object of the penalty being the prevention of similar violence in future, the Chief Justice must have been aware that any interference with it under present circumstances at Canton must be attended with mischief and danger.

Above all, at a moment when I am assailed by continued demands for satisfaction on account of the shooting of three subjects of China, who it is contended were slain in pursuit to a distance, and therefore not in necessary self-defence, the announcement to the Chinese government of Mr. Compton's total impunity must be attended with the worst international tendencies.

Mr. Hulme has however entirely remitted the fine on an appeal from Mr. Compton. This was not the verdict of a jury, but Mr. Hulme's individual opinion and judgment; and I regret extremely that it was in his power to interfere. Though I cannot agree that ordinance 5 does not refer to all disputes between Chinese and English, I have been advised to let his judgment have its course, notwithstanding its manifest evils; but some fresh ordinance will inevitable be required to prevent such mischievous interference in international cases; and with the assistance of the Legislative council I propose taking such an ordinance into consideration. In the meanwhile I have the honor to submit for your Lordship's approval a draft of an enactment for the deportation of English offenders on the just complaint and requisition of the Chinese government. Its inherent right I believe would be to send them out on its own part.

Inclosed with this despatch is a copy of the report of Mr. Hulme's decision and a copy of the rule. As to the law of the case, Mr. Macgregor being no lawyer, and having (like myself, in the absence of the Attorney-General) no legal adviser, has made mistakes in point of form which vitiate his sentence; and this sentence was not communicated to me until after he had sent it to Mr. Compton.

Mr. Hulme suppresses the fact that Mr. Compton provoked the blow of the Chinese by the assault of pushing him aside. He suppresses the fact of the Chinese being seized and tied up, which really caused the riot, as Keying states. He also suppresses the fact of the written warning which Mr. Compton had received only the day before his first act of violence.

I cannot better close this despatch than by forwarding the inclosed letter from Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, conveying the high authority of his opinion as to the disposition of the Chinese people at Canton, and what he very properly terms the bullying conduct of our countrymen. He speaks from personal investigation and experience.

I hold the highly responsible office of preserving peace between the two countries, and therefore look to your Lordship for a fair estimate of my motives in desiring to restrain the excesses of the English within the Chinese territories, where the inherent rights of the government have been given up to us. Mr. Holme's argument will operate, I fear, as an encouragement to our people to be violent in a place like Canton, where the elements of mischief are rife.

It is with great satisfaction I state that Major-General D'Aguiar, to whom



I have read this despatch, requests me to add that he "entirely concurs in every word of it," and that he is prepared, as a member of the Legislative Council, to aid me in providing as much as possible against the chances of evil.

51. *Sir J. Davis to Viscount Palmerston.* (Red. Jan. 23, 1847.)

Victoria, Hongkong, November 29, 1846.

My Lord,—I have just on the morning of the mail steamer's despatch (being Sunday) received the inclosed letter from Mr. Compton forwarding very voluminous documents under open cover. This is in violation of a plain principle recognised in the following words under the Colonial regulations (page 49), but applicable of course to all departments of her majesty's service :

"The practice which has in some instances been adopted of addressing memorials direct to this office, and only sending copies of them to the governor on the eve of the departure of the vessel which is to convey them, will not be recognised as a proper course of communication, and must not be repeated."

Among the documents forwarded by Mr. Compton, I am glad to find he has included his own deposition (not on oath) before Mr. Vice-Consul Jackson at Canton, in which the whole of the facts for which he was fined are admitted by himself—even to the confession that they "very probably" occasioned the fatal riot of the 8th July.

On account of the weight and volume of Mr. Compton's inclosures they are forwarded *via* Southampton.

J. F. DAVIS.

52. *Viscount Palmerston to Sir John Davis.*

Foreign office, January 25, 1847.

Sir,—I have received your despatches of the 12th and 25th of November, respecting the fine of 200 dollars imposed by your directions on Mr. Compton, for the part which he took with reference to the riot at Canton on the 8th of July, and the subsequent remission of that fine by the Chief Justice of Hongkong.

It is my intention as soon as the papers transmitted to you by Mr. Compton, and referred to in your despatch of the 29th of November, shall arrive in this country, to refer the whole proceedings, and especially the decision of the Chief Justice, to the consideration of the Law Officers of the Crown, and I consequently abstain for the present from entering upon that part of the question.

But I have to state to you in the meanwhile that I entirely approve of your having fined Mr. Compton; for I consider it indispensable that British subject in China should be taught that if, on the one hand, her majesty's government will exact and require from the Chinese that British subjects should be as free from molestation and insult in China as they would be in England; yet on the other hand her majesty's government will exact and require of British subjects that they shall in China abstain as much from offering molestation and insult to others, as they would if they were in England; and it never can be tolerated that they should indulge towards the people of China in acts of violence or contumely which they would not venture to practise towards the humblest and meanest individual in their own country.

With reference to the draft of the ordinance for the deportation of English offenders on the just complaint and requisition of the Chinese government, inclosed in your despatch of the 25th November, I have to state to you that I have doubts about the expediency of such an enactment, and I think it would be best to postpone it.—I am, &c.

PALMERSTON.

53. *Viscount Palmerston to Sir John Davis.*

Foreign Office, January 25, 1847.

Sir,—With reference to your despatch of the 12th of November, inclosing copies of your further correspondence with Keying respecting the riot at Can-

ton of the 8th of July, and calling my attention to a notice published by Mr. Consul Alcock at Foo-chow-foo on the 24th of June last with a view to restrain disorderly conduct on the part of British subjects, I have to state to you that you are quite right in using all the means in your power to prevent or to punish such irritating proceedings by British subjects and persons employed by them towards the Chinese, as are mentioned in Mr. Alcock's public notice. While on the one hand no unprovoked aggression on the part of the Chinese should be permitted, on the other hand the British in China ought most carefully to abstain from any conduct calculated to provoke, irritate, and offend the Chinese of any class, high or low.—I am, &c.

PALMERSTON.

54.

*Viscount Palmerston to Sir John Davis.*

Foreign Office, February 24, 1847.

Sir,—Although I must reserve for the next opportunity the fuller instructions which I shall have to address to you on the subject of the riot at Canton of July last, and of the proceedings against Mr. Compton in consequence of his conduct with reference to that transaction, I will not allow the present mail to depart without informing you that all the papers connected with the case have been referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, and that they have reported to me that they are of opinion that Mr. Compton was guilty of offences on the 4th and 8th of July for which he might and ought to have been punished by proceedings in the Consular Court of Canton, under the provisions of Ordinance No. 7 of 1844, but that the proceedings which were taken against Mr. Compton were not justified by law, and that the Chief Justice was therefore bound to reverse the judgment of the Consul.

I presume that the fine levied on Mr. Compton has been returned to him; and I consider that under existing circumstances no further proceedings should be instituted against him on account of his share in the transaction of the 4th and 8th of July. At the same time, however, you will carefully abstain from offering him any apology or amends for what has occurred with respect to him.

I shall have occasion to write to Mr. Compton by the next mail in reply to his letters to me on this matter; but I am prevented by want of time from doing so to-day.—I am, &c.

PALMERSTON.

55.

*Viscount Palmerston to Sir John Davis.*

Foreign Office, March 11, 1847.

Sir,—I stated to you in my despatch of the 24th February, written immediately before the departure of the last Mail, that the Law Officers of the Crown had reported to me that in their opinion Mr. Compton was guilty of offences on the 4th and 8th of July, for which he might and ought to have been punished by proceedings in the Consular Court of Canton under the provisions of the Ordinance No. 7 of 1844; but that under existing circumstances no further proceedings were to be instituted against him on account of his conduct on those days, but that you were not to offer him any apology or amends for what had occurred with respect to him.

I now inclose for your information a copy of a letter which I have addressed to Mr. Compton in reply to his letters of the 28th of October and 28th of November, which you forwarded to me with your despatches of the 29th October and 29th November.

I cannot however dismiss this subject without some further observations. And in the first place I must state to you, and desire that you will impress upon all Her Majesty's Consular Officers, that it is the intention and injunction of Her Majesty's government that you and they should enforce to the fullest extent, for the maintenance of good order and peaceable conduct on the part of Her Majesty's subjects resorting to China, those ample powers of repression and punishment which have been vested in the Chief Superintendent and in the Consular Officers by the Legislature and the Crown.

Her Majesty's government are glad to believe that by far the greater proportion of those British subjects who are established in trade at the several ports of China are duly sensible of the duty which is peculiarly incumbent upon British subjects in China to respect the feelings and habits of the people among whom they dwell, and to abstain from any line of conduct which may produce disorder or give rise to feelings of ill will, and thus tend to interrupt the state of peace between their own country and that in which they reside. All well-disposed British subjects must also be fully aware of the duty which, though in a foreign land, they still owe to the sovereign authority of the British Crown and legislature; they must be prepared to pay a ready obedience to those laws of their own country, which, with a view to their protection, the British government has obtained a right to enforce in China as regards the subjects of the British Crown. But unfortunately the case of Mr. Compton affords sufficient evidence that in the British community in China, persons may be found, who, disregarding their duties as peaceable citizens, are unmindful of the great commercial interests which they may put in jeopardy, and heedless of the disastrous consequences which would ensue, if tumults, which they wantonly provoke, should lead to a renewal of hostilities between England and China.

Her Majesty's government trust that the orderly and well-disposed subjects of Her Majesty in China will not only discountenance all evil doers, but will moreover aid and support to the utmost of their ability Her Majesty's Consular officers in their exertions to preserve the public peace.

Her Majesty's government are prepared to maintain against all infractions by the Chinese government or people, the treaty engagements between the two countries; but on the other hand, they are determined, not merely from a regard for British interests, but on the higher ground of justice to the Chinese government, to provide as far as possible that no injury shall arise to peace and good order in China, from the concession which has been made to Her Majesty of exclusive jurisdiction over British subjects in China.

Her Majesty's government therefore think it right to warn, through you, all British subjects resorting to China, that they must pay due obedience to the British Consular authorities, and that they must refrain from insulting the Chinese, and from exciting or joining in any riots, or any disturbances of the public peace. And in order that all British subjects may be fully apprized of the legal character of the offence which any person would be guilty of, who should by an act of violence give rise to riot in the course of which loss of life should ensue; and in order that it may be known what is the degree of punishment to which such person would be liable, I have to inform you that the law officers of the Crown, in an opinion which I have received from them, say that.—

“If a person by some act of violence give rise to a riot in the course of which loss of life ensue, he will be guilty of murder or manslaughter, as the case may be, or not guilty of either of those crimes according to circumstances. For instance, if by some act of violence he give rise to a riot, but take no part in such riot himself, he will be responsible for the act only, but not for the riot nor the consequences which may ensue

“So, though he commit the violence intending to give rise to a riot, and actually take part in the riot himself, yet if in the course of that riot death ensue from the act of another wholly unconnected with him, he will be guilty of the riot, but not of the murder or manslaughter, as the case may be. But if with other persons he resolve generally to resist all opposers in the commission of a riot, or any other breach of the peace, and to execute it in such a manner as naturally tends to raise tumults and affrays he must, when he engages in such bold disturbances of the public peace, at his peril abide the event of his actions; and therefore if in doing any of these acts he or his confederates happen to kill a man, they are all guilty of murder or manslaughter, as the case may be, provided the act done were the result of the confederacy, and happened during the actual strife or endeavour, or at least within such reasonable time afterwards as to leave it probable that no fresh provocation intervened.

“The punishment will vary according to the degree and quality of each offence.”

It will be the duty of Her Majesty's Consular Servants to be guided by this exposition of the law, however painful to their feelings may be the necessity of enforcing it.

I have to instruct you to transmit to all Her Majesty's Consuls in China copies of this despatch, and of my letter to Mr. Compton; and to direct them to make the same public within their respective Consulates. You will also direct them to republish at the same time Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 7th of April, 1844, and the Ordinance No. 7 of the 20th November, 1844, “For the better administration of justice in the Consular Courts and to establish a Registration of British subjects within the dominions of China.”

You will make a similar publication of these several documents at Hong-kong.—I have, &c.

PALMERSTON.

56.

*Mr. Addington to Mr. Compton.*

Foreign office, March 11, 1847.

Sir,—I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 28th of October and 28th of November, the last inclosing copies of correspondence and other papers relative to the proceedings taken against you by her majesty's consul at Canton, in consequence of your conduct on the 4th and 8th of July, 1846.

Lord Palmerston directs me to state to you in reply, that her majesty's government entirely approve the conduct of Sir John Davis in directing her majesty's consul at Canton to proceed against you for what you did on those two days, and they regret that in consequence of the irregular manner in which these proceedings were conducted, you have escaped the penalty which you would otherwise have incurred; for her majesty's government are advised by the law officers of the Crown, to whom all the papers connected with the occurrences of the 4th and 8th of July, have been referred, that you were guilty of offences on those days, for which you would have been liable to punishment if you had been proceeded against in the consular court of Canton under the provisions of the Ordinance No. 7 of 1844.

Her Majesty's Government, however, trust that your having escaped from any penalty on this occasion, in consequence of a defect in the form of the proceedings against you, will not serve as encouragement either to yourself or to others to commit towards the people of China acts of violence or contumely which you would not venture to practise towards the humblest individual in your own country; for her majesty's government, while they will exact and require from the Chinese that British subjects shall be as free from molestation and insult in China as they would be in England, are determined on the other hand, so far as lies in their power, to exact and require from British subjects in China that they shall abstain as much as they would do if they were in England, from offering molestation and insult to other persons; and her majesty's chief superintendent in China and all her majesty's consular officers will be most strictly enjoined to enforce to the fullest extent against all offenders those powers of repression and punishment which have been vested in them by the Legislature and by the Crown.

Her Majesty's Government would much neglect their duty if they were to permit the permanence of peace between China and England to be endangered, and the great interests involved in its continuance to be put into jeopardy, by the wanton acts of inconsiderate or reckless individuals,—I am, &c.

H. U. ADDINGTON.

57.

*Viscount Palmerston to Sir John Davis.*

Foreign Office, March 11, 1847.

Sir,—I have to instruct you, in transmitting to her majesty's consul in China copies of my preceding despatch of this day, to call the attention of those officers to the absolute necessity of strictly adhering, in the administration of justice in



their consular courts, to the regulations prescribed in Ordinance No. 7 of 1844. If due attention had been paid in Mr. Compton's case the forms required by this Ordinance, much inconvenience would have been avoided.

In the instruction which you issued to the consuls on the 22d of November, 1844, with reference to Ordinance No. 7, you restricted them, in conformity with the regulations laid down for the consuls in the Levant, from sending to Hongkong for trial any other persons than those accused of murder. You will consider whether it may not be expedient to modify this restriction, and to allow the Consuls to send to Hongkong for trial before the Chief Justice of the colony, in conformity with the provisions of the Order in Council of the 17th of April, 1844 parties implicated in serious riots.

I should wish you also to consider whether it may not be expedient to pass an Ordinance in the Legislative Council empowering her majesty's consuls to require disturbers of the public peace to find security for their good behaviour.—I am, &c.

PALMERSTON.

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58. *Sir John Davis to Viscount Palmerston.*—(Recd. March 23.)

Victoria, Hongkong, January 29, 1847.

My Lord,—Your Lordship's despatch of October 17th leaves it to my discretion to be guided by circumstances as to issuing a public notification, cautioning British subjects against the dangers to which they must necessarily expose themselves by proceedings on their part calculated to excite the animosity of the Chinese, and warning them not to expect reparation for losses incurred by their own misconduct.

I have had sufficient reason to anticipate you Lordship's instructions, as my despatches will have shewn, in consequence of repeated acts of violence on the part of the same individual, though specially warned by the consul at Canton.

Enough appears to me to have been done on this point for the present, and I believe the merchants are fully aware that they would have to bear losses traceable to their own misconduct. The consul informs me that, from opposing authority, they have turned to recriminating on each other, a very natural course.

Everything is so perfectly quiet and orderly at Canton, that I shall prefer postponing your Lordships caution to any time when it may be hereafter needed, rather than provoke the subject anew at present. When I have made the communication to the Chinese government prescribed by your Lordship's despatch of 3d October, it shall be duly reported.—I have, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

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59. *Sir John Davis to Viscount Palmerston.*—(Rece. April 23).

Victoria, Hongkong, February 12, 1847.

My Lord,—As soon as possible after the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of October 3d directing me to make the communication to Keying therein pointed out, I addressed the inclosed to the Chinese Minister, embodying the substance in nearly the same words. Your Lordship's despatch was received nearly four months after its date (October 3. January 23); and time and distance had made it necessary (as it appeared to myself) to exercise the sort of discretion which sometimes becomes requisite under such circumstances, in omitting the following passage: "that as it is essential, with a view to preventing future outrage, that an example should be made of those who were engaged in that [disorder] which happened in July, the British government request that the Canton authorities will make proper inquiries into the transaction, and punish according to law the most guilty of the rioters."

More than six months had elapsed since the occurrence, when the numbers killed and wounded by the shots of the foreigners had inflicted a more severe punishment and made a more striking example than anything that could now be done by the Chinese government, whose attempt to punish any of its people at this time for those occurrences might involve it in very serious consequences, considering its confessedly weak state. I trust therefore that your Lordship will consider I have exercised a proper discretion under the circumstances.

I have every reason to hope that my despatch of January 26th will convince your Lordship that there was no undue backwardness on my part to supply the protection of a steamer to our merchants at Canton. I beg, with reference to this subject, to inclose some very strong opinions of Sir H. Pottinger (exactly coinciding with Sir Thomas Cochrane), which were entirely approved by her majesty's government. With this before me, added to the particular instructions I myself had received, and the decided objections urged by the consul to the presence of a steamer, I could not but consider that I incurred some personal responsibility in sending up the "Nemesis" when I did.

I have received the inclosed reply from Keying to my note, conveying your Lordship's communication. It is worded in some degree as reply to myself, and I therefore sent the short rejoinder which is herewith forwarded, repeating that I had made the communication as directed by her majesty's government, giving the Chinese authorities credit for the exertions and precautions which they have certainly displayed of late, and expressing my hope that proper restraints on both sides would effectually prevent the chance of future troubles.—I have, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

60.

*Sir John Davis to Commissioner Keying.*

Victoria, Hongkong, February 13, 1847.

I have had the honor to receive your excellency's reply to my note of the 30th January, in which I conveyed a communication from her majesty's government, according to the instructions I had received as in duty bound.

It will be my duty to transmit your excellency's reply to her majesty's government. I shall state the truth in announcing that the precautions taken by the Chinese government have been lately much greater than before the disturbances of July last and I therefore hope that troubles cannot again occur. British subjects have been very strictly warned against originating disturbances on their own part, and thus we may hope that tranquillity will be preserved on both sides. This will be most just and expedient, and for the general good.—I beg to renew, &c.

J. F. DAVIS.

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ART. III. *Bibliotheca Sinica: Introduction; No. 2., Si Fång kung Kù, or Public Proofs from the west.* By the late Rev. Dr. WILLIAM MILNE. (Continued from page 411.)

MR. EDITOR,—In the course of my creeping over some book-shelves, I have met with a remark to this effect: it is common for weak minds, and half-drilled scholars, to speak most of what they have been last thinking because they think most of what they have been last reading; and thus, with an affected originality of thought, they figure away in conversation to the great entertainment of the company, till some sagacious friend, who has gone over the same ground before, begs leave to put the gentleman in mind, that what may seem original to him, was not new to the learned world for more than a century ago. For, the same ideas were published in such a year by Mr. ———, the celebrated historian, and author of a tragedy; or by Dr. so & so, that most subtle metaphysician, and excellent mathematical scholar; or by the Rev. ———, a judicious critic and sound divine. It is not my inten-

tion, sir, on the one hand, to dispute the truth<sup>9</sup> of this remark, with those stiff, dogmatical beings, who would check the freedom of useful and entertaining conversation, by their cold formalities; who would deprive the company of the pleasure of a good remark, because it did not chance to fall from their own lips; and who perhaps are not extremely averse to inform their friends, that about fifteen years ago, they met with the same observations in the Greek classics which they read at school, and in the margin of which they had since written some notes, critical and explanatory. Nor is it my intention on the other hand, to justify the presumptuous forwardness and impertinence of those who are constantly dunning their friends, with mangled quotations from their favorite authors, Homer, Quintilian, Virgil, Voltaire, and sir Isaac Newton; who are ambitious to shine, if even in borrowed feathers; and who think that the ideas formed in their imagination, will be hailed by others, as the bud of an original genius. I shall leave it to abler pens to adjust matters between these two very different classes of men, and to point out a proper medium (a task indeed!) of conversation and writing, by adopting which, one may instruct and entertain the majority, without exciting the envy, rankling the anger, feeding the vanity, or offending the scrupulosity of any.

But, to be short, I will tell you a secret, if you will promise to keep it as well as the generality of my confidants do. I send you the analysis of a Chinese book; but do not on any account let your readers know, that I was lately reading it; for they would instantly identify me with those who, having no resources of their own, are, like beggars, solely dependant on what the day may bring in.

Your's truly, Tú Yü.

No. II.

**TITLE.**—西方公據 *Sí fāng kung kü*, i. e. "Public proofs from the west;" intimating that the work contains the common evidences of Fuh, or Budha.

**AUTHOR.**—It was compiled by Shin Tsing-chin and Chow Yuen-chin, who were believers in the doctrines of Fuh. The preface was written by Shahun, a priest of Fuh. He says, "when the compilers had finished the work, and had it ready for the blocks, they asked me to write a preface; and I have written on the three grand means [of attaining happiness,] viz. belief, conduct, and desire, in order to lead on, and advise the reader."

**DATE.**—It was published in the 13th year of Kien lung, about A. D. 1748, and reprinted at the Hae-chwáng-sze temple, Canton, in the 30th year of the same Emperor.

**NATURE OF THE WORK.**—A compilation of miscellaneous essays, illustrated by thirty plates: There are in all fourteen essays or papers, some of them supposed to be very old. It is wholly of a religious nature, describes minutely the happiness which the sect looks for in the life to come, points out the way to it; and contains animated exhortations to the worship of idols, &c.

FORM.—One volume small octavo, containing 33 pages. Costs in China about the value of two shillings, English money. But is most generally given away gratis; a practice not uncommon in China, with books which are supposed to have a useful tendency. There is subjoined to it a list of subscribers, consisting of twenty-five names, two priests, and three disciples, who each contributed a small sum to pay the expense of printing. They subscribe in all the different proportions from seven shillings and six-pence to about nine-pence.

CONTENTS.—The subjects though not numbered in the original, I shall arrange in order, for the sake of making a few extracts from them. 1. A preface. 2. Seventeen plates, representing the peach-garden of Paradise; O-nan, a disciple of Fuh, forming a group of persons and teaching them; the world, twenty stories high, widening towards the top, like an inverted pyramid, and resting on a lotus flower, beneath which is the sea of fragrant waters, over whose surface the winds of the metempsychosis blow; the universe divided into four islands, in the midst of which is the lofty mountain See-ne, rising up above the height of the sun and moon; the most felicitous part of Paradise; the seven palisado fences; the seven canopies of net-work; the seven rows of trees; the turrets; the seven pearl and lotus pools; the floors of the palace, paved with square tiles of gold; the birds of Paradise, perching on the trees, and singing stanzas from the sacred books; Ne-to Fuh delivering laws; an assembly or group of the more eminently virtuous; the air and manner of those who are travelling in good earnest to life in the west; the people of the six quarters, (viz. north, south, east, west, above, and below,) praising Fuh, in the language of a book which lies in the midst of them; and the manner in which the followers of Fuh perform worship,—these with a variety of other things, all belonging to the other world, are represented. 3. An introduction to the following papers. 4. A general exhortation to cultivate virtue. 5. Fuh delivers the O-ne-to canon. This piece is said to have been translated from some western language, by Kew-mo-lo shih. It treats of Fuh, and of Paradise. 6. A prayer, or charm, for the removal of all evil. It is wholly unintelligible to the Chinese, being the bare sounds of Indian words expressed in Chinese characters, without any explanation. 7. The ten repetitions. To continue repeating the words, "O-ne-to Fuh," as long as a person can, without pausing to draw breath, is called a Nēen, i. e. repetition. 8. A hymn of praise to Fuh. 9. Nine plates, representing various forms of Fuh; together with the forms of the superior, middle, and lower classes of persons, produced in Paradise from the lotus flower. These persons all sit cross-legged on the lotus, and are encircled with six lines of small dots, rising from the lotus at the bottom, and which, after forming nearly the shape of a pear, terminate in a point at the top. 10. The priest Sze-sin's address to the young and the aged, to those that have children and those that have not, to the rich and the poor,—exhorting them to seek life in the west. 11. On constancy and perseverance in repeating the name of Fuh. 12. The ten advantages which arise



from repeating the name of Fuh. 13. Footsteps or traces of those who have already gone to life in the west. 14. Paradise, and the way to obtain it. 15. A discourse dehorting from the dread of death. 16. The teacher, Lëeh-ming-keu's two things that ought to be done, and three things that ought not to be done. 17. Yun-lee, dehorts from taking away animal life, and exhorts to rescue it when others attempt to take it away. 18. Yun-lee on the monthly and annual fasts. In every month of the year, there are six fasts, viz. on the 8th, 14th, 15th, 23d, 29th, and 30th days. Besides these there are three full months of fasts in every year, viz. the 1st, 5th, and 9th months,—so that this sect has ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY TWO FASTS EVERY YEAR! Both to the monthly and annual fasts, are affixed six small circular plates, with thirty dots in each, and the word "Fuh" placed in the centre. These are for the purpose of fixing the lowest number of repetitions in one fast. 19. List of subscribers to the second edition.

**COMPOSITION AND STYLE.** The style is what the Chinese call Chung-tang-chi-wan, i. e. middle class composition; neither above the comprehension of the unlettered reader, nor offensive to the eye and ear of the learned. Nevertheless the great number of technical phrases peculiar to the sect of Fuh, and of foreign words left untranslated, renders the book in some parts hard to be understood. In other respects, the style is simple and animated, and a very good model for tracts and discourses on practical subjects, where it is an object to touch the feelings and reach the heart. The Christian missionary should not be unacquainted with the book: those noble and divine subjects which it is his business to teach, if expressed in such clear and animated language, would fall with great force on the heart; and would be read and heard with a degree of pleasure, even when their influence may not be felt. The far greater part of the books of Fuh, are exceedingly obscure from such causes as those above mentioned; glossaries are sometimes attached to the end of them, but these are also frequently so obscure as to leave the reader without satisfaction. A person skilled in the Pali and Sungskrit languages, reading the books of Fuh in Chinese, would possess great advantages for understanding them. Constant references to the metempsychosis, occur throughout their books, which also tend to render them difficult at first. A Dictionary of the technical and foreign words employed by this sect, would be a useful help to the Chinese student.

**EXTRACTS.**—I shall follow the arrangement of the subjects above given.

1. "I have examined all the books and canons, and find that the true laws, viz. belief, conduct, and desire, are the coin and food [used on the way to] the pure land: like the feet of the tripod, one cannot be wanted."

2. In plate 3d, which represents the world like an inverted pyramid, it is said.—"There are infinite and innumerable worlds such as this: this is but a single specimen selected out of myriads of myriads"—"each single seed\* of the world, produces twenty worlds."

\* This figure would lead one to suppose, that they believe that worlds PROPAGATE worlds, as seeds do their kind!

3. "Mr. Koo-tih said:—When other sects seek to learn the true way, it resembles the crawling of ants up a steep and lofty mountain: travelling to obtain life in the pure land, resembles sailing on smooth water, with a fair wind and full canvass."

4. "Alas! this body is totally void of anything that is good; yet who is there that is not deceived by it! Its bones, which exceed seven feet in length, must be bound together by tendons. Its fleshy parts must be covered over with skin. Its nine apertures are constantly pouring out that which is impure. Its six senses are blindly indulged. Its hair, and nails, and teeth collect heaps of dust! Its mucus, tears, and spittle, resemble the filth of a house of office. Worms are assembled in crowds within; and its outside often becomes food for flies, who eat into the flesh. A single disease puts an end to its life!"

5. "If there are any virtuous men and virtuous women, who, hearing of O-ne-to Fuh, shall hold fast the mark of his name; if for one day, if for two days, if for three days, if for four days, if for five days, if for six days, if for seven days,—they hold it fast with one mind; then when the end of their life arrives, O-ne-to Fuh, with the whole multitude of the sacred ones, will appear before them."

6. [The reader is referred to the 5th Number of the Gleaner, page 168, where an extract of the subject of this particular is given.]

7. "Every morning, after dressing, turn your face to the west; stand upright; clasp your hands; and with a continued sound, say—"O-ne-to Fuh." To exhaust one breath is called "a repetition." Ten such, are called the ten repetitions. But these must be according to the length or shortness of one's breathing; and cannot be all fixed at one length, or one distance. When a breath is quite out that is the limit. The sound should neither be high nor low, neither slow nor quick; but modulated to the due medium."

8. "O-ne-to Fuh! thy body is the color of gold!

"Thy countenance is lovely, and without compare!

"Thy snow-white looks, wave around the Wo-see-me hill!

"A glance of thy scarlet eyes, renders transparent the four seas!"

9. "[He who] knows that all laws and rules form but a perfect vacuum, will be without fear and trouble."

10. "You, poor people; it is good for you to repeat the name of Fuh. At present your clothes and food are deficient; you are poor and vile; always hungry and cold; these all are the consequences of your not cultivating virtue in a former state of existence. Your retribution is manifest. If you do not reform the past, and do well for the future, the moment you die, you will be like the weight which falls from the scales into the well—when will it again be taken out?"

11. "Having vowed to repeat the name of Fuh, you must ardently pray, vigorously act, confidently hope, and be sincere in all: cherish not other thoughts. Be serious as if you were going to execution; as if fleeing from a mortal enemy; as if flames or floods beset you around. With your whole heart seek to be delivered from the bitter pains of the transmigration, that you be no more subject to mortal births."

12. "[The ten advantages which the man who repeats the name of Fuh enjoys, are here abridged.]—" 1. All the powerful gods of heaven will secretly and always protect him. 2. All the demi-gods will constantly follow and keep him. 3. All the Fuhs will day and night protect and think of him. O-ne-to Fuh will constantly keep him within the circle of his resplendent light. 4. No devil can harm him; neither serpents, dragons, nor poison can touch him. 5. He shall neither be hurt by fire nor water, by thieves nor swords, by arrows nor prisons, by an untimely death nor by a suffering life. 6. All his former crimes shall melt away; and he shall be delivered even from the guilt of murder. 7. His dreams will be all right and pleasant. 8. His heart will be always glad; his countenance shining; and his strength abundant. 9. He will be always respected by the people of the world, who will liberally give to him, and worship him as they worship Fuh. 10. When he comes to die, his heart will be without fear; his thoughts will be regular. He will see O-ne-to Fuh with all the sacred ones, who will introduce him to the pure land."

13. "In the Dynasty Sung, in the district of Tan, Mr. Hwang, a blacksmith, at every moving of the tongs and every stroke of the hammer, used with his full force to repeat the name of Fuh. One day while in good health, he called a neighbour to write the following verse for him :—

"Ting ting tang tang,"

"The iron oft refined, becomes steel at length.

"Peace is near!

"I am bound to the west."

"Having uttered these words, he was instantly transformed; (i. e. died,) this verse spread far and many people of Hoo-nan province became followers of Fuh."

14. (Vide pages 94, 95, 96, &c. of the present number of the Gleaner.)

15. "When one's sickness becomes serious, and he is about to die, let not relatives weep, sigh, and make a noise, and thus disturb his spirit; but let them with one voice repeat the name of Fuh, and assist the man in his progress to life [in the west.] A long time after the breath is gone, it will be soon enough to mourn."

16. "[Two things that ought to be done.] 1. To seek to live in the pure land. 2. To practice all kinds of good deeds. [These things that ought not to be done.] 1. Do not enter into corrupt sects."—[It is remarkable that the T'een-chu Keaou, or Roman Catholic Religion, is here specified, as one of those which ought to be avoided. It existed in China before this book was written; and I suspect the compilers improved their own system by it, especially in what relates to another life; for the books of Fuh written previously to the date of this one, are much more gross and have much less sense in their dogmas; at least this is the case with those of them that have come in my way.] 2. Do not reckon that [your repetitions of the name of Fuh] will be turned into money [in the life to come.] 3. Do not take away animal life.

17. "All men love life. Every creature covets existence. Why then, kill

\* Ting ting, &c.—these words have no meaning, but barely express the sound of the hammer on the iron.

the bodies of other living beings, in order to fill our own mouths?—I advise you to beware of killing animals. Families who do not take animal life, good demons protect them; their calamities melt away; the thread of their life is drawn out in length; their posterity are virtuous and filial; and countless good fortunes attend them.

18. [On fasts.] The canons say, six days in every month, four celestial kings walk about in the world, examining the actions of men. [On four of these days they send deputies;] on the 13th and 15th, they go round in person, and examine who among men, are filial to parents; who faithful to Princes; who accord with the *Sán Páu*, (i. e. three precious ones; duties of the sect,) and who, cultivate virtue.

P. S. I suppose, sir, the length of this analysis, will be an objection to it with many of your readers; but I could hardly on my plan, do justice to the book, in a smaller compass. I shall try to make an atonement for this error, by condensing as much as possible my next communication. I shall only further observe, that this book is also called *Ne-to-king-too*. It was published under this name in the same year, with the one of which I have given the analysis. I have collated them, and find the only difference is, that the latter wants the preface.

ART. IV. *Readings in Chinese Poetry: specimens Nos. 1 and 2, the Harmonious Water-birds, and the Mouse-Ear.* Communicated for the Chinese Repository.

No. 1. *The Harmonious Water-birds.*

關	在	窈	君
關	河	窕	子
雝	之	淑	好
鳩	洲	女	逖

The harmonious voices of the sacred water-birds,  
Are heard from their river island home :  
This excellent damsel, retiring and mild,  
Is a lovely mate for our virtuous prince,

參	左	窈	寤	求	寤	悠	輾
差	右	窕	寐	之	寐	哉	轉



荇 流 淑 求 不 思 悠 反  
 菜 之 女 之 得 服 哉 側

On the waves of the river's running stream,  
 (The Hang plant's stalks uneven stems,)  
 Are swaying to and fro:  
 This excellent damsel retiring and mild,  
 When waking and sleeping, our prince was seeking.  
 While seeking, but not having found,  
 His troubled thoughts waking and sleeping exclaimed,  
 How long! Oh how long!  
 He turns him around on his bed, and turns back,  
 He turns him all around, and returns.

參 左 窈 琴 參 左 窈 鐘  
 差 右 窕 瑟 差 右 窕 鼓  
 荇 采 淑 友 荇 芼 淑 樂  
 菜 之 女 之 菜 之 女 之

The Hang plant's stalks uneven stems,  
 Are swaying to and fro. He gathers them now;  
 This excellent damsel retiring and mild.  
 With lutes and guitars he welcomes her home.  
 The Hang plant's stalks uneven stems  
 Are swaying to and fro, they are fit for offering now:  
 This excellent damsel retiring and mild,  
 With music of bells and of drums come welcome her home.

The above is a translation of the first ode in the Chinese collection of poetry called the *Shí King*. It is referred to more than once by Confucius, as a specimen of highly finished composition, and chaste human feelings. A literal translation into English is an impossibility for the idioms of the Chinese and English languages, which differ widely enough in prose, are still more remote in poetry. "*Mandarin ducks quack-quack*," might be a literal translation of the first line into "Canton English," but such a version would give the English reader, no other than ludicrous images, without expressing any one of the really beautiful allusions which the lines convey to a Chinese mind. In the translation, therefore, no attempt has been made to transfer the Chinese idiom to our language, but the effort has been made to give the ideas as accurately as possible

in language which claims to be nothing more than very slightly measured prose. The only addition which I have ventured to make to the original, has been in adding the first line of the second verse. "On the waves of the rivers running stream." This is not necessary in Chinese, for the Hang plant being a familiar water plant would at once suggest this idea to the native, while to the English reader, the name being unfamiliar, the idea would not occur.

The ode commemorates the marriage of the ancient king 文王 Wan Wáng founder of the Chau dynasty, with 太姒 T'ai Sz', a lady equally celebrated for her beauty and her virtue. It is supposed to have been composed by some of the inmates of the king's palace, to commemorate the event, and was written immediately after her arrival. In its structure it belongs to the class of Chinese poetry included under the denomination of *hing*, 興, or "suggestive", in which some other object than the one intended is first mentioned, and some quality or trait in the object thus mentioned, suggests or introduces the idea which the poet wishes to present, and in the comparison or the contrast of the two, consists the principal beauty of the composition. In the ode before us, the points of suggestion and comparison are not very remote, though some acquaintance with Chinese history and customs are necessary, in order to appreciate them. Fortunately however, one has not to look far for such knowledge, for all the odes in the *Shí King*, have been so fully commented on, by innumerable scholars, that the chief difficulty is to choose which commentator to read. This difficulty too, is completely obviated if the student is so fortunate as to possess the 欽定詩經傳說彙纂 *Kin ting Shí King chuen shwoh wei tswán*, an admirable compilation in twenty-four volumes, made in the reign of K'ínghí, and comprising the most valuable notes of a large number of authors. In this work as in every thing else that relates to the Chinese classics, the first place is given to the notes of the Chinese "universal scholar" Ch'úfú tsz', and for the convenience of the reader, the more important notes are printed in large type, which may be read continuously, while the notes in small type, which commonly contain something worthy of notice may be left until such time, as inclination or the course of his studies, turns his attention to them. Partly as an elucidation of the ode already given, and partly as a specimen of the character of Chinese commentary, the notes which are subjoined, have been selected from the twenty solid pages of comment in which the meaning of the twenty lines of text, is copiously set forth.

King Wan of the state of Chau was naturally possessed of the most eminent virtue, and was further so highly favored as to obtain a virtuous lady of the Sz' family for his consort. On her arrival at his palace, the inmates perceiving that she possessed the retiring and meekly chaste virtues, composed this ode in her praise. They first spoke of the responsive notes of the water birds, which dwell in delightful harmony on the islands in the river. This excellent damsel so modest, meek and mild, so respectful, reverent and chaste, comparable in all these respects to these sacred birds, is a most suitable match for the virtuous Wan Wáng.

In the second stanza, the feelings of the king before he had secured this partner of his bosom, are described. The uneven stems of the Hang plant float uncertainly on the water, and are tossed about by its waves. Thus the king's thoughts, while his acquisition of this rare prize was as yet uncertain, disturbed every moment of his existence. Waking, his thoughts were of her. Sleeping, his dreams were of her. The days passed heavily along, and at night he found no repose on his bed.

In the third stanza, the joy of the king, and of the inmates of his palace, when he secured his birds, are described. The stems of the Hang plant, which at first suggested the uneasy emotions of the king, are now used to represent the bride. It is a plant which when ripe is used both for food and for sacrifices, a person is represented as gathering the ripe stalks, as they float along the uncertain tide, when properly prepared, they are offered in the solemn sacrifices. This suggests the arrival of the bride at her new home, and the fitness of her union with a man of such excellent virtue as Wan Wáng, while the music of lutes and guitars, of drums and bells, express the joy with which she is received, and the tender affection she is to share.

By the "water-birds" are doubtless meant the *mandarin ducks*, so long and justly celebrated in China for the affection and constancy of the male and female. During life the same pair always continue together, and yet they exhibit none of that forward fondness seen in animals whose loves are less constant. Hence they are said to have perfect affection with dire restraint, and men may hear their harmonious voices, but cannot see ought that is too familiar. In describing the character of the lady Sz,' she is called "retiring and mild." By mildness is meant the deep gentleness and seriousness of her nature, which shows itself in her modest and retiring deportment.

The Hang plant grows in rivers and ponds. Its root is in the ground, and its round stem; which is white near the ground, and green near the surface of the water, appears to have some power of elongation and contraction, according as the water becomes deeper or shallower. Its leaves are of a purplish or reddish color, about an inch (Chinese) in circumference, and float on the surface. The flower is yellow. It is sometimes put in wine to give it flavor, and sometimes used in sacrifices.

The 琴 *Kin* had five or seven strings, and the 瑟 *Sch* had twenty-five, they are here used for all sorts of smaller and soft sounding instruments, while the bells and drums denote all those of more powerful tone. Their being all mentioned together, shows how great and universal was the joy, when the lady Sz' was brought home to the palace of Wan Wáng. The joy was most appropriate, for a man of such talents and worth, as Wan Wáng and a woman of such beauty and virtue as the lady Sz', are not often seen in the world, and when two persons so eminent are brought together, there is reason to hope, that not merely will they be supremely happy, but, what is of far more consequence, all those under their influence will also share their happiness.

Confucius said that in this ode there is "music without voluptuousness, and grief without excessive sorrow," which (says Ch'ú fútsz,) in my humble opinion, is equivalent to saying, that the author of this ode has accurately conceived the proper feelings of nature, and expressed them in strict harmony with truth." Wan Wáng's joy was shown by the union of lutes and guitars and drums and bells; had it been shown by feasting and revelling and excess, it would have been voluptuous and improper. His grief was shown by his uneasiness; had it been shown by weeping and lamentations, it would have been unmanly and excessive sorrow.

In the opinion of Ch'úfú tsz', the music to which this ode had been set, was lost long before his time, but he recommends to students to be often repeating it, and investigating the composition of its sentences, by which they may in time obtain some insight into the mysteries of poetic composition.

A large part of the notes on this ode are intended to illustrate the various human relations, and their appropriate duties, to which it refers, but we shall content ourselves, with the following sentences which are printed in large type near the close.

Kwáng Hang says, "the institution of marriage lies at the foundation of a nation's prosperity and is the source of ten thousand happi-



nesses. When the rites of matrimony are duly ordered, all things assume their proper place, and heaven's decrees are perfected. Hence Confucius in arranging the odes gave the first place to this of the "Harmonious Water Birds." For he said, that those who hold the highest station, are the father and mother of the people, and if the actions of the prince and his consort do not correspond with those of heaven and earth, it will be impossible to serve acceptably the divine spirits, or regulate all things according to just rule. From ancient days till now, the prosperity or decline of the three dynasties of Hiá, Sháng, and Chau, have been entirely owing to their attention to or neglect of these great truths.

No 2. *The Mouse Ear.*

采	不	嗟	寘
采	盈	我	彼
卷	項	懷	同
耳	筐	人	行

I gather and gather again the Mouse Ear plant,  
But my bamboo basket I cannot fill;  
Alas! I am thinking about my lord,  
And the basket I have laid by the broad road side.

陟	我	我	維
彼	馬	姑	以
崔	虺	酌	不
嵬	隤	彼	永
		金	懷
		罍	

I wish to ascend yon stone covered hill,  
But my palfrey is lame, and cannot go up:  
Then bring me the storm-cup of gold all enchased,  
That I for a while my long griefs may not cherish.

陟	我	我	維
彼	馬	姑	以
		酌	

高	玄	彼	不
		兕	永
罔	黃	觥	傷

I wish to ascend yon high hill's back,  
But alas my black palfrey all sickly and wan;  
Then bring me that cup of the unicorn's horn,  
That I for a while my long woes may forget.

陟	我	我	云
彼	馬	僕	何
砥	瘠	痛	吁
矣	矣	矣	矣

I wish to ascend that rock hill's gentle slope,  
But alas my poor palfrey all weak with disease,  
My page too! unable to walk;  
Then I alas! what shall I do!

This is the third of the odes in the *Shí King*. It appears to be the composition of the lady Sz', wife of king Wan. The exact occasion on which it was composed is not clearly ascertained. Some suppose, that it was while Wan Wáng was absent on some service for the tyrannical Chau, the last emperor of the *Sháng* dynasty. Others suppose that it was composed during the time when the tyrant, having conceived some jealousy of king Wan Wáng had immured him in prison. Whatever may have been the particular occasion, it is evident that the long absence of her husband, and the dread of some danger befalling him, had filled the mind of lady Sz' with fears, which are implied rather than expressed in the ode. In it may be seen the depth of her chaste devotion to her lord.

The structure of the ode, is what is called 賦 *fú*, or *direct*, the emotions of the poet being expressed in direct language, without comparisons or metaphors. In the first stanza the lady describes herself, as thinking on the absence of her husband, and having her mind so filled with painful thoughts on that account as to be unable to perform the simple action of filling an open basket, with a plant which grew in great abundance by the road side. The remaining stanzas, are merely extended expressions of the idea of her anxiety

and grief, she wishes to ascend a high stone crowned hill, that she may look out, and see whether there are any signs of her husband's return, but owing to the lameness of her horse he cannot convey her thither. She calls for wine, not with the intention of drowning her sorrows with it, which idea is rejected with indignation by the commentators, but to express the depth of her grief which is such as cannot be soothed by ordinary occupations. Again she wishes to ascend a hill of easier ascent than the first which are spoken of, but she finds that her palfrey is so overcome with disease, that his naturally black color has changed to a sickly yellowish hue, and he is utterly unable to carry her. She calls for another cup, the idea intended being obviously the same as in the second stanza. Bethinking herself however, she proposes to ascend the gentle slope of a neighboring eminence, which she could do on foot, and from which perhaps she may obtain some intimation of the return of her lord. But she finds that not only is her horse diseased but even her page is sick, and unable to walk, and in an agony of grief she bursts into an exclamation, which is incapable of being rendered into English, but the general meaning of which is given in the translation.

The "mouse ear," or "curled ear" is a plant growing in Shensí, known by several names. It is a kind of creeping vine, with numerous curly leaves green above and white beneath, with white flowers having slender stems, the leaves grow very abundantly and are used for food. In the fourth month, the pods are somewhat in the shape of the pendant ornaments worn by ladies in their ears, hence it is also called 耳璫, "Ear pendant." The basket spoken of was an open shallow bamboo basket, very easy to fill, and the commentator's remark that the lady's finding it so difficult to fill such a basket, with a plant so easily gathered as the mouse ear, was itself a proof how much her thoughts were occupied about her husband and not about the work she was engaged in, and therefore she lays down the basket by the roadside, while her thoughts were busy elsewhere. The idea is certainly a very natural and beautiful one.

The "storm cup" was a large cup with golden ornaments, and the "representation of clouds and thunder" engraved on it. The unicorn, is doubtless the rhinoceros, cups of whose horn are frequently found in the curiosity shops of Canton and other Chinese cities. According to Chífú tsz', the horn in its natural state, is of a green color, and weighs a thousand pounds, and some other writer says, will form cups that hold five or six quarts.

Fú kwáng remarks, that as long as only her palfrey was diseased,

she still had her page to rely upon. But when her page too was taken down with sickness, all her plans were rendered unavailing, and she could express her grief only by sighs, for even wine could not remove such sorrows. Most of the commentators seem to suppose, that the gathering of the mouse ear, the storm cup, and the cup of the unicorn's horn, are mentioned only to give distinctness to the expression of her feelings, and not by implying that the wife of Wan Wáng would herself gather vegetables for food, or resort to wine to dissipate her grief.

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ART. V. *Journal of Occurrences: Chinese pirates; death of Mr. Lowrie; attack upon Messrs. Reynvaan and Vaucher; wreck of French ships; arrival of missionaries; count de Besi.*

THE following particulars of the death of Mr. Lowrie are extracted chiefly from the China Mail. The account of the attack upon Messrs. Reynvaan and Vaucher, and the death of the latter, which occurred several weeks since, is taken from the same source. We leave it to our readers for the present to make their own comments upon these distressing and melancholy events. That the righteousness of God shall be fully displayed in the wrath and wickedness of men, we have no doubt, and though we are called to mourn the loss of a shining light in our beloved Zion, we may rejoice at the assurance that the rage of enemies can never harm us, and that it is the will of him who doeth all things well.

*Chinese Pirates* as we learn by recent arrivals from the north, are becoming very troublesome about the island of Tsungming and on the west coast of the Chusan Archipelago. On the former, *Tsungming*, they are said to have collected and organized themselves, several thousand strong, under the direction of a youth about twenty years of age, and become a terror to the native shipping and to the Chinese authorities. Some war junks have been sent against them, but seem to have had little success. A rumor was abroad at Shánghái of their having made prisoner of the chief military officer on the island. What they are prepared for on the coast of the Chusan group, the melancholy report of their doings on the 19th of August, may give our readers some idea. There is, we think, much reason to fear that it is not in the power of the Chinese government to arrest their high career of evil doing. They say, "the officers rob the people, and we will rob the officers and any others whom we please." At one time and another, overtures have repeatedly been made by foreigners to the Chinese government for coöperation against these freebooters; but hitherto these have, with one or two exceptions, been rejected. Erelong some more systematic and efficient measures must be adopted. Western governments must have their representatives at Peking and their own armed vessels on these coasts, for security and protection.

The Rev. Walter M. Lowrie, who was a Missionary at Ningpo, had been appointed to meet with others, at Shánghái, to revise the translation of the New Testament into Chinese. He journeyed from Ningpo to Shánghái the latter part of May, traveling by native vessels via Chínhai and Chapú.



It being necessary for Mr. Lowrie to return temporarily to Ningpo, and as no other opportunity of going presented, he decided to return by the route that he came. He left Shánghái on Monday the 16th of August, by the canal for Chapú, being accompanied by his servant and another man, natives of Ningpo. He arrived on Tuesday morning the 18th, at Chapú, and immediately engaged one of the Chínhai passage boats to convey him to Chínhai. There being a very strong southerly wind, the vessel did not set sail until Thursday morning at 9 o'clock. When the boat had proceeded some eight or ten miles, they perceived a piratical craft bearing down upon them. As it approached, Mr. Lowrie took a small American flag in his hand, and went on the bow of the boat. The pirates soon clearly manifested their intentions by firing upon the boat, and when along side boarding it. There appeared to be some twenty or more men, with gingals, matchlocks, spears and swords. The boatmen and native passengers being all very much terrified, concealed themselves as much as they could, while Mr. Lowrie seated himself in the cabin watching the work of destruction, and gave them the keys of his trunk and boxes. Though they inflicted injury upon the boatmen, and took the clothes from off them, yet they did not molest him, nor rob him of his watch or the money that was about his person.

When the pirates began to tear up the floor to rummage the hold, Mr Lowrie went on deck, and seated himself in front of the mainmast. As they had nearly finished the work of pillaging the boat, it appeared to occur to them that Mr. Lowrie would report them to the authorities on his arrival at Chínhai; and the question was started, whether to kill him at once, or throw him overboard. This last being resolved upon, two of the ruffians attempted to execute the fell purpose; but not being able to accomplish it, a third joined in the murderous work, and they succeeded in throwing him into the sea. As the waves ran high, though he was seen two or three times, he soon sank to rise no more.

The Pirates proceeded to disable the boat by cutting its sails—taking away the rudder, &c., and then departed leaving it to the mercy of the winds and waves. As soon as the crew had recovered from their fright, they tried to fit up the boat to return to Chapú. Not being able to steer the vessel, they ran her on a low shore. Mr. Lowrie's servants reached Cha-poo in the evening, and immediately laid a statement of the affair before the Chinese authorities. Their depositions to these particulars were taken down, and the officers said they would take measures immediately to apprehend the guilty perpetrators. The officers wished to detain the servants till these steps should be taken—but they said, they must hasten to convey the sad intelligence to Mr. Lowrie's colleagues at Ningpo. Being supplied with some seamy clothing and a little money, they started on Friday morning the 20th by land for Ningpo, where they arrived on Monday the 23d in the afternoon.

On their arrival there, with this deeply afflictive intelligence, the matter was immediately laid before the Tau-tai, who promised to take instant measures for the apprehension of the murderers. Mr. Sullivan, H. B. M. Consul at Ningpo, proffered every aid his official station enabled him to render, and steps were taken to recover the remains if possible. Rumors of this nefarious deed reached Shánghái on Saturday the 28th, which were confirmed by letters, dated at Ningpo on the 24th received here on the 29th. The matter was immediately laid before the táutái, *Hienling*, by Mr. Bates, the acting U. S. A. consul, who on the 31st received a reply, in which the táutái states that he had reported the case to the governor-general of the two *Kiang*, and the governor general of Chehkiáng and Fuhkien, and to the governor of Chehkiáng and to the governor of Kiángsí and had sent communications to his associates and subalterns, that they might all coöperate. At the same time he offers a reward of \$300 for the seizure of the principal, and \$100 for each of the accomplices. In addition to the measures thus taken by the local authorities, the matter is now being laid before Keying by the American Charge d'Affaires; and it is to be hoped that those guilty of so unprovoked and wanton a murder will be brought to condign punishment.

On the evening of the 8th ult. Messrs Reynvaan and Vaucher (the former a native of Holland, the latter a Swiss) hired the Hongkong fast-boat No. 12

to bring them to Victoria. They went on board at 8 o'clock in the evening, and, as the Master of the boat informed them he could not make sail at that time, retired to bed. About 11 o'clock the boat got under weigh, but the weather becoming thick and rainy, it was about to anchor betwixt the Dutch and French forts, when it was attacked and boarded by pirates, who plundered the passengers of their baggage and upwards of \$4000 in watches and specie. Mr. Vaucher ran on deck, and was either forced or leaped overboard, and perished. (His body has since been found and buried at Whampoa.) Mr. Reynvaan received two severe spear wounds in the neck, with several contusions on the head, shoulders, and thighs. Some Chinese passengers were also robbed. Fortunately two gentlemen in a hong boat were returning to Whampoa, and being hailed by Mr. Reynvaan, conveyed him back to Canton, followed by the fast-boat, the master of which is missing. We understand that in the absence of the Dutch and French Consuls, Mr Consul Macgregor instituted an examination into the circumstances, and forwarded the depositions to the Chinese authorities, that no time might be lost in adopting steps for the discovery and apprehension of the pirates.

The attack was probably preconcerted for the sake of plunder, and a correspondent suggests that the fast-boatman and the servants may have connived at it; but it is also possible that as the former is missing he may have been killed by the pirates; and if alive, there is little doubt he will be traced out, as his boat is registered here, and his sureties are bound to produce him under a heavy penalty.

We formerly mentioned that, in the absence of the Dutch and French Consuls (who have now however taken charge of the business), Mr. Macgregor considered it his duty to institute an immediate investigation into the circumstances of the murderous attack on Messrs Reynvaan and Vaucher, and to forward the deposition to the Chinese authorities. We have since learned that upon receiving the communication of the British Consul, Keying issued instant orders to the local Mandarins to institute diligent search for the perpetrators, nine of whom have in consequence been seized and examined by the Chinese magistrates; and by these means a portion of the property has already been traced out and identified.

The French ships of war *La Gloire* and *Victorieuse* were wrecked, August 10th, upon a shoal on the Corea coast, distant 130 leagues from Shánghái, at which place two of their boats arrived sixteen days afterwards, bringing twenty-four men—having left 540 on a small island with good supplies from the ships. Their object in visiting the coast was to open direct intercourse with the court. A survey of the coast and neighboring seas was also contemplated. They had with them interpreters and also a missionary, who hoped to join the native Christians in Corea, amounting to several thousands. It is said that, the French admiral, when on that coast last year, intimated to the king that the visit would be repeated this year, and direct intercourse demanded; and the king is said to have referred the matter to his liege lord, his majesty Táukwáng, who was pleased to intimate that the French ought to be courteously received.

The ships, when they struck, were supposed to have been upon the track of the *Lyra*, and therefore not suspecting any danger. It is expected that shipping, taken up at Shánghái, will convey the 540 men directly to Shánghái or to Macao.

The arrival of missionaries at Shánghái has been reported: the Rev. B. Southwell and Mrs. Southwell, the Rev. W. Muirhead, and Mr. A. Wylie, missionary printer, per *Monarch*, August 26th,—all from the London Missionary Society.

Also, August 28th, from the Episcopal Board of Foreign Missions, U. S. A. the Rev. Phineas D. Spalding.

Two other missionaries with their wives, from one of the Baptist Societies, in the United States, have recently arrived at Shánghái.

*Count de Besi*, the Roman Catholic bishop at Shanghai, it is said, will soon return to Europe—his successor having been already appointed.









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